

# THE TIMES

FRIDAY JANUARY 29-1982

Price twenty pence

Preview  
A survey of London's thriving jazz clubs is contained in today's Preview, the 16-page guide to entertainments and the arts in Britain published each Friday with The Times.

New law chief for Scotland  
Mr Peter Fraser, MP for Angus, South (above), has been appointed Solicitor General for Scotland. He replaces Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, dismissed by the Prime Minister last week for press comment in the Glasgow rape case. Mr Fraser, aged 36, an advocate at the Scottish Bar since 1969, was made FPS to Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, in November.

Husain to lead Gulf war force  
King Husain has announced the formation of a contingent of Jordanian volunteers to be commanded by himself, to fight alongside the Iraqi army in its war with Iran. He made the announcement last night in Amman.

Lovesick youth hijacks bus  
A lovesick French schoolboy armed with a pistol hijacked a school bus and forced the driver to take him to Holland where he wanted to visit his girlfriend. He was overpowered in Veldhoven, and the children were freed unharmed. Back page.

Sandwiches? Gym shoes? Gun?  
A cartoon illustration of a boy with a gun, a sandwich, and gym shoes.

Polish catalogue of US spies  
Poland's head of counter-intelligence named Western diplomats among those who, he claimed, had been caught contacting Polish dissidents. In an attempt to counter American criticism of the military regime, he spoke of American moles, radio receivers, safe houses and dead drops in Poland. Back page.

Hostages freed  
Guerrillas who hijacked a Colombian Boeing 727 freed their hostages and flew to the Caribbean island of San Andres in an executive jet. Their destination was not known. Earlier report, page 9.

Carron deported  
Mr Owen Carron, MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, and his companion, Mr Danny Morrison, were deported yesterday from the United States to Canada.

Diplomat killed  
Mr Kemal Arkan, the Turkish Consul General in Los Angeles, was murdered by Armenian gunmen who opened fire on his car in the city centre.

10pc mortgages  
Mortgages at only 10 per cent were offered yesterday by the Building Trust, an unauthorised unit trust. But the loans will be index-linked and will increase with the house prices index. Page 15.

US mediator  
Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, hinted in public that he intended to appoint a special envoy to revive the stalled Israeli-Egyptian talks on Palestinian autonomy. Page 9.

Heron setback  
Heron Corporation was refused a High Court injunction preventing the transfer of shares between Associated Communications Corporation and Mr Robert Holmes a Court. Page 15.

Leader page 13  
Letters: On backing of The Times and the Sun, from Lord Hunt, and Mr Kenneth Morgan; scientific research, from Professor P. V. Danckwerts; Mr P. A. D. Whitmore; Mr Benn's speech, from Professor J. P. Stern, and Rabbi David J. Goldberg; Ireland: Trade Union Bill, Turkey: Features, page 10, 12; A crack in the Red Brigades' power; David Watt on the Ulster challenge Mr Prior cannot avoid.

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## Dozier freed in 90-second assault on Red Brigades

By Our Foreign Staff

Italian police yesterday broke into a flat in Padua and in 90 seconds without firing a shot freed Brigadier-General James Dozier in their most successful and spectacular operation against 10 years of Red Brigades terrorism.

The 50-year-old general, deputy Chief of Staff at Nato's Southern European land forces headquarters at Verona, had been a prisoner of the Red Brigades for 42 days.

Police sources said they had been watching the flat for three days in Via Pindemonte on the outskirts of Padua, about 50 miles from Verona, where the general was abducted. The decision was taken to go in this morning and at 11.36 a squad of specially trained anti-terrorist police broke down the door of the five-room apartment.

They confronted five terrorists, including one woman, who surrendered immediately. The general, gagged, barefoot and wearing a tracksuit was inside a tent.

As they entered the room with the tent containing the general, the police were told to be pointing a pistol with a silencer at the general's head, apparently with a brief to shoot in an eventuality such as this. He was overcome.

The general was unharmed, but this and with a growth of beard. According to the police his first words were "Thank you, marvelous, OK, police." After telephoning his wife, who is in West Germany, and the United States Ambassador in Rome, Mr Maxwell Rabb, General Dozier was taken to an American military base near Verona.

One of the terrorists was named as Antonio Savasta, believed to be a Venice Red Brigades leader, and another as his companion, Emilia Libera, also sought by police. A third suspect was identified as 22-year-old Cesare Leonardo, previously unknown to police.

Mr Rabb quoted General Dozier as saying to him over the telephone: "Now I'm fine but when the police broke in, a terrorist pointed his pistol against my forehead and I really thought my last minute had come."

A Padua police spokesman said General Dozier appeared to be in a state of shock when he was helped out of the tent. He was speaking half in English and half in Italian. He asked whether it was true and when he was told the 28th he kept saying "Giovetti, Giovetti" (Thursday, Thursday), he said.

"He asked for a milky coffee but did not want any food. He was very tired, but it is not surprising after what he has done though. He is a wonderful man", the spokesman said.

He said that contrary to some reports that one of the guerrillas had been hit over the head with a pistol butt, "in fact he just banged his head against a wall".

General Dozier will now spend some time undergoing medical checks in the American military hospital at Vicenza.

Admiral William Crowe, Nato's Southern European Commander-in-Chief in Naples



A Carabinieri officer watches protectively over the bearded General Dozier at Padua police headquarters.

said the general had told him on the telephone he had never lost hope of being freed. Now he wished to get a haircut. The general, Admiral Crowe said, had behaved brilliantly. Nato headquarters also issued a statement expressing appreciation of the Italian authorities' handling of the case.

Both Houses of the Italian Parliament broke out in applause when the news was announced in this morning's session. President Pertini exclaimed: "Bravi, bravissimi, they have liberated General Dozier", as arms outstretched, he welcomed the victim. Mr Muhammad Seddikben Yabla, the Algerian Foreign Minister, for a formal call.

Mrs Dozier told a press conference in Frankfurt before flying to Italy to join her husband: "He sounded marvelous and in good health. We're looking forward very much to seeing him as soon as possible, and that will be very soon." Mrs Dozier added: "Please thank the world for all their love and their prayers. It did work, and he's home."

President Reagan hailed the general as a "courageous soldier whose life has been dedicated to the defense of liberty" and said his rescue was "a happy ending... the prayers of millions of Americans have been answered."

"I've spoken with the general by telephone and I'm happy to relay his report that he is in fine shape and I can tell you that just hearing him as he had just gone down was a relief. Nancy he sounded as if he had just gone down for the corner for five minutes", Mr Reagan said.

"The same courage and resolve that James Dozier demonstrated on the battlefield in wartime have seen him through this new test with flying colours. His country and our allies can be very proud of this gallant man... his rescue is welcome news for all those who believe in the rule of law and the defence of our free institutions."

## Cabinet agree to differ over Budget

By Julian Haviland  
Political Editor

Despite wide differences of opinion, freely expressed, about the need for a reflationary Budget and the urgency of reducing unemployment, the Cabinet was said yesterday to have agreed to continue with its strategy of reducing inflation.

The Prime Minister told the Commons: "We had an excellent Cabinet, a very useful discussion."

The special session to discuss the Budget for the year ending 1983 took place at 10.30 a.m. and lasted for two hours. The Budget details are expected on March 9, that the orator had no voice in the shape of it.

Details of possible tax changes were not discussed; they were left by agreement to the Chancellor's judgment next month. But when his colleagues learn his intentions on Budget day, there will be no repetition of last year's crisis when three members of the Cabinet, faced with having to support a heavy defeatist Budget, discussed resigning on the spot.

With overall levels of public expenditure for 1982-83 already agreed after considerable cabinet argument in the autumn, the discussion yesterday was on how much revenue should be raised, or rather how much could be afforded in relief; and whether the corporate or the personal sector should benefit most from a bounty the Chancellor provided.

Sir Geoffrey Howe had circulated a paper designed to concentrate discussion on the successes already achieved, successes he later listed in the Commons.

Sir Geoffrey said his Budget would be "designed to maintain the process of steady recovery". The Government would continue to create the conditions for sustainable growth.

## De Lorean axes 1,100 Belfast jobs as MPs protest

By Our Industrial Staff

About 1,100 out of 2,600 jobs are to be axed at Belfast's crisis-hit De Lorean car factory as part of the company's bid for survival. It was disclosed last night. This is double the figure feared by union leaders.

The announcement led to angry scenes in the Commons with MPs on both sides of the House criticizing the company and the Government's involvement.

One of the most outspoken was Mr Alan Clark, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Sutton, who accused the Government of subsidizing "the extravagant lifestyle of a lot of American car men".

The uproar is certain to sour further relations between Mr John De Lorean and Whitehall. Last year he claimed that the company's image had suffered badly as the result of allegations made by Mr Nicholas Winterbottom, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, of financial irregularities — which police said later were unfounded — and three weeks ago he blamed United Kingdom Government delays for the failure of his company's Wall Street share flotation.

In Belfast, production, which has been scaled down dramatically is to be cut even further in an attempt to carry the car sales start to pick up in America.

Union leaders were told of the company's decision by Mr Don Lander, managing-director, who flew in from London for critical talks. Mr De Lorean flew back to New York after a day of crisis talks in London. It is understood the mass

## Odds on O'Reilly for the election

By Alan Hamilton, Dublin, Thursday

He was bursuring the bar of the Bailey off Grafton Street, gazing forlornly into his glass, where waited a shiny tennypenny piece with its leaping Irish salmon, his meagre change from a punt and a pint. "Jesus", he expostulated, "we'll soon be having a new unit of currency: the Guinness pound. If it gets any dearer, we'll turn into another Norway, brewing it in the backyard and drinking it with the blinds drawn."

For his refill he proffered a £12.70 note, the kind of note the Queen on it. But, despite the higher value of sterling, his change was the same. "Thieves", he muttered, scattering brown froth. "The country has been broke, but the publicans aren't."

The Irish government may have fallen on the issue of shirts and shoes — its proposal to slash 18 per cent VAT on the necessities of clothes and footwear — but the real fear of the matter is gradually seeping into people's minds: the old country certainly is broke.

The thought of another general election only eight months after the last elicited yesterday's noise but weary and fatalistic sighs. The parties have no money for a fight, and the electors have no stomach. "Whoever wins, we'll get the same old budget back again, give or take a shilling," pronounced a stout woman sipping whiskey. "We're paying now for the high old time we gave ourselves after we joined that Common Market."

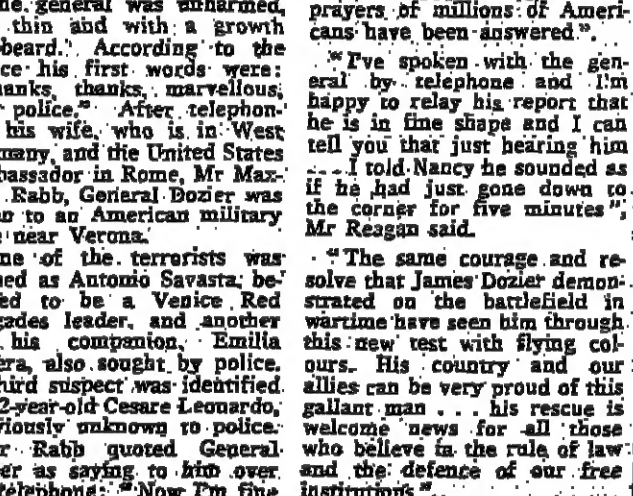
The political leaders, with an election to fight, cannot afford the luxury of resigned fatalism. Dr E. J. Sheehy, who everyone calls "Garret", was first off the mark with his face up on lamp-posts by O'Connell Bridge before midnight on Wednesday. Mr Haughey, whose every one calls "Haughy", retaliated early this morning by nabbing the nearest lamp-post to the gates of Leinster House, where the Irish government sits when there is one.

Mr Charles Haughey, having come second in the race for the lamp-posts, was a clear winner of the race to hold the first election press conference. He looked sleekly confident, suggesting that he may have come fresh from consultations with Mr Kenny O'Reilly.

Mr O'Reilly is a prominent Dublin bookmaker, who this afternoon was offering 4/7 that Mr Haughey would lead the next government, and 6/4 that the coalition would stay in power. Mr O'Reilly is a man of greater political acumen than the average elector; last week he offered 10/1 that the Government would be defeated on the Budget, but not a single citizen accepted his offer.

Back in the Bailey, the pessimistic drinker concluded: "Whichever of them gets in, they'll have to put the price of drink up. And that'll ruin the social fabric of this country. The social fabric is held together by drinking. Another 10p on a pint of Guinness and they'll empty the pubs for good."

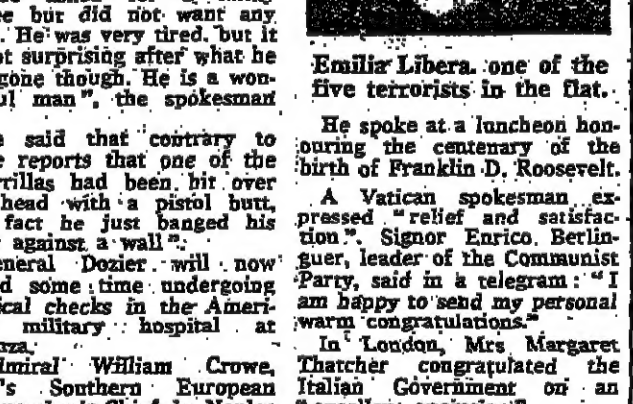
Cash crisis Page 2  
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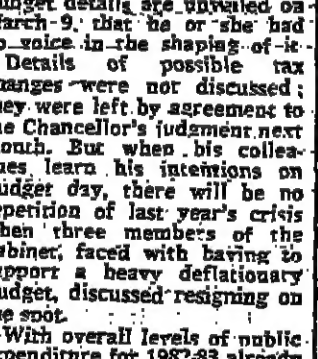
Emilio Libera, one of the five terrorists in the flat.

He spoke at a luncheon honoring the centenary of the birth of Franklin D. Roosevelt. A Vatican spokesman expressed "relief and satisfaction". Signor Enrico Berlinguer, leader of the Communist Party, said in a telegram: "I am happy to send my personal warm congratulations."

In London, Mrs Margaret Thatcher congratulated the Italian Government on an "excellent operation".



Mrs Dozier and her daughter Cheryl hold a news agency picture of the general wired to them in Frankfurt.



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Continued on back page, col 3

## Inter-union tension high as rail talks fail

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

Relations between the rail unions were at breaking point last night as hopes of an early independent inquiry into the train drivers' dispute started to fade.

Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen (NUR), went further than at any time in the four-week-old dispute in criticizing publicly leaders of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) for reneging on their part of pay and productivity agreements that had averted a national rail strike in August.

At the same time, Mr Pat Lowry, Chairman of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, failed to persuade Mr Ray Buckton, Aslef general secretary, to agree to an inquiry on terms of reference acceptable to British Rail.

At a press conference prompted largely by suggestions of conflict within his union over his attitude to the dispute, Mr Weighell said that the NUR had honoured all its agreements with British Rail.

He denied there was any new split in his union's executive over the agreement on flexible rostering which the NUR had reached with the management but which Aslef has not.

British Rail said last night that negotiations had failed after all-day talks to persuade train guards at Shrewsbury, Essex, who are members of the NUR, not to stage a 24-hour unofficial strike today over flexible rostering.

## Government to compensate 400 closed shop rebels

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, plans to compensate some 400 workers dismissed between 1974 and 1980 because of Labour's closed shop legislation.

Under the Employment Bill, given its first reading yesterday, the Government will set up a £2m fund to make cash payments to employees who lost their jobs through conscientious objections to joining a union.

This is the biggest change in the Cabinet's proposed labour law reforms since they were published two months ago. As expected, the Bill exposes trade union funds to civil damages of up to £250,000 for each case of "unlawful action" by strike organizers.

Mr Tebbit said yesterday that Labour's industrial relations legislation enacted in 1974 and 1976 first created and

### What the Employment Bill will do

- Damages of up to £250,000 against unions through civil actions against "unlawful industrial action"
- Compensation of up to £20,000 for workers who lose their jobs for refusing to join a union where a closed shop exists
- The outlawing of union-labour-only contracts
- Selective dismissal of strikers who refuse to return to work
- Redefinition of "trade dispute" to exclude political and inter-union strikes
- Extension of state funds for ballots on wage offers

then consolidated a situation which was morally indefensible by sanctioning the dismissal, without compensation, of employees in a closed shop solely on the grounds of their non-membership of a specified trade union, even when they were existing employees or when their objection was based on grounds of conscience.

"The Government have always taken the view that this was wrong and we ended this injustice by the enactment of the 1980 Employment Act. We are now seeking in this Bill a power to enable the Government to compensate those who were dismissed in such circumstances while the 1974 and 1976 legislation was in force but who would have been protected if their case had fallen under the 1980 Act. I believe this will be widely welcomed."

Mr Len Murray, general

secretary of the TUC, described the proposal as "nothing more than a shabby public relations gimmick". The trade union movement aims to decide a strategy of opposition to the new laws at a special conference on April 5.

The Department believes that about 400 people were dismissed as conscientious objectors, but there may be more. The maximum figure likely to

be awarded by a special assessor is £7,000 but the Government calculates that compensation could cost about £2m over the next 18 months.

Many of the closed shop rebels were dismissed by British Rail. They will be compensated in the same way as the Strassburg. Three of whom their case at the European Court of Human Rights. Others were employed in retail distribution, footwear, and other industries and by Labour-controlled local authorities.

The dismissed waitress, Joanna Harris, the Sandwell poultry inspector, are not covered by the new law because they were dismissed after Mr James Prior's Employment Act came into operation.

First reaction from the unions was predictably hostile. Mr Murray said it could turn out to be "the most foolish and damaging piece of legislation to be put before this Parliament". It could only cause conflict in industry, and employers tempted to use it should be warned that it could backfire.

"This is not just an anti-union and anti-worker Bill. It is an anti-industry Bill, and it will join its predecessor, the Industrial Relations Act, on the scrapheap."

Analysis of the Bill, page 7

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Bill to curb spread of sex shops

Local authorities, given new powers under a Bill now before Parliament, will be able to refuse an application to open a sex shop or sex cinema in any area where they consider it would be inappropriate or offensive. (Our Political Staff writes).

That was announced yesterday when amendments were made to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, to give effect to a promise made before Christmas by Mr. Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, when he told the Commons the Government was aware of the deep concern many people felt about the spread of sex shops.

Prison policy under attack

The government's present prison building programme will do virtually nothing to relieve overcrowding or improve conditions, according to Ms Vivien Stern, director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

Assaulted man was deported

A Nigerian student who said he had been kicked so badly by British police in 1977 that he had to have a testicle removed was jailed in 1979 for four months for breaching immigration controls and was later deported to Nigeria. (Lucy Hodges writes).

The student, who has not been named, had entered Britain as a visitor in 1973, and in 1975 was granted asylum in this country. The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board has since awarded him £1,500 after concluding that he was assaulted. The police have also given him £4,000 in an out-of-court settlement.

No more help for GLC fares

There will be no more government help to bail out the Greater London Council over cheap fares, David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, made clear last night. (Our Transport Correspondent writes).

Belfast man on explosion charge

John Gabriel McComb, aged 28, of Arran Street, Belfast, appeared at Marylebone Court yesterday, accused of plotting to cause explosions in Britain days between November 26, 1978 and January 18, 1979. Armed police guarded the courtroom during the one-minute hearing. McComb was remanded in custody to appear at Lambeth Magistrates' Court on February 4.

Test tube inquiry

Test tube baby techniques are to be examined by a special committee of doctors to be set up by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Detective cleared

Det. Chief Inspector Maurice Gifford, aged 42, of Park Lane, Cottenham, Hull, the former head of Humberstone Drugs Squad, was acquitted at York Crown Court yesterday on three charges of inciting burglary and conspiracy to defraud.

Terror detentions

Two hundred and seventy four people were detained under the counter-terrorism laws during 1981, compared with 537 in 1980. In 1975, the first full year when the laws were in force, detentions reached a peak of 1,067.

Looking ahead

The Sunday Times has decided to advance publication of the proposed "Look" section of its colour magazine from April to March 14.

Corrections

Revelation of personal tax allowances in line with last year's 12 per cent inflation, as outlined in the Finance Act 1980, would not cut the weekly tax bill by £5 a week for 21 million married taxpayers, as reported yesterday, but by only £1.50. Only the income liable to taxation would be reduced by £5 a week. For those receiving the single allowance the tax cut would be 98p a week, not £3.27, for those receiving married allowance the cut would be £1.91, not £3.37, and for those on single allowance, £1.27, not £4.23 a week.

Prior's rolling devolution plan upsets Tories

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was given a mixed reception by Conservative backbenchers last night when he told them he was determined to proceed with his plans for devolved government in Ulster.

He continued to a private meeting of the backbench Northern Ireland committee that he wants to set up an elected assembly in Ulster which would either nominate or elect an executive to administer powers granted to it under a system of "rolling devolution".

The concept envisages powers being gradually devolved as the new system of government develops. Although he did not use the emotive phrase "power sharing" which has overtones of failure, Mr Prior made clear that under his ideas no powers would be devolved until there is agreement of a "weighted majority" of members of the assembly.

If that majority was 70 per cent, as he suggested it might be, proposals for devolution would need to be carried by a 70 per cent majority.

Mr Prior told MPs that he was anxious that there should be devolution as quickly as possible. Prospective members of the assembly would need to feel that the assembly would not be just a talking shop. He had not expected unqualified backing from last night's meeting and after several speakers including Mr. Ian Paisley, Mr. John Hume, Mr. Sir Nigel Fisher, had expressed their opposition, Mr Prior said that he did not think it would be wise to put up any candidates. One estimate was that it would field at least six candidates in border areas.

Rail tunnel choice for Channel link likely

By Our Transport Correspondent

The British and French governments are expected to choose a single-bore rail tunnel for the Channel link within the next two months. Whether it will be a six-metre tunnel through trains only, or a seven-metre tunnel for both road and rail traffic, remains an open question.

That means that promoters of bigger schemes like the British Steel Corporation's huge bridge and tunnel with offshore islands look like being disappointed. After exhaustive discussions between Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, and the eight promoters and between British and French officials, the last summit meeting between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Mitterrand, the bored tunnel has emerged as clear favourite on grounds of speed, cost, and technical feasibility.

One surprising feature is the lack of interest in the "mousehole" tunnel, for through trains only, which last autumn seemed to have lost ground to the larger seven-metre tunnel in the belief that the latter would make a larger contribution to the economy and to Anglo-European trade, and would be easier to finance.

Mr Bob Barron, British Rail's senior executive working on the project, claimed yesterday that the small tunnel now has a better chance of being returned than the larger one.

The Social Democratic Party in the London borough of Camden plans to promise residents to keep rate rises beneath the level of inflation. According to the party's unpublished draft manifesto for the local elections in May, it will be a "new element of discipline" into the spending of a council which under Labour control, has led some of the highest cash rates in the country.

The SDP would gradually raise council house rents in the area by between £2 and £5 a week, in addition to the minimum rent increases imposed by the Government.

Given Camden's record as a high-spending but innovative authority, the local SDP's approach to managing the borough is sure to be influential elsewhere. Mr William Rogers, one of the party's national leaders, is a Camden resident.

The SDP promises cuts in staffing in such areas as libraries and the architects' department. "Full use should be made of redeployment and voluntary redundancy."

Latest opinion polls have put Mr Jenkins in the lead, but Mr George Leslie, the Scottish National Party's prospective candidate, said it was possible that he could split the vote and snatch victory.

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in the Commons yesterday that a government survey of the 14 CSE examinations boards in Britain and Northern Ireland indicated that there had been no change last year, when the new rules first came into force, in the proportion of pupils who entered provisionally for CSE examinations, and who went on to take the examinations.

Under the old rules, a school could claim supplementary benefit, if unemployed, as soon as he left school. The change in the rules means that a pupil who leaves in the summer term is no longer able to start claiming benefit until September 1. School heads expressed deep concern that that would encourage many pupils, including potential examination candidates, to leave at the end of the Easter term, provided they were already 16. By doing so they would gain four extra months of supplementary benefit, at £15.25 a week (now £16.85).



Tories pick solicitor for Hillhead

From John Witherow, Glasgow

The Conservatives said last night that Mr Gerald Malone, a solicitor, would be the party's candidate in the Hillhead election in Glasgow. He was selected soon after the Liberal-SDP Alliance disclosed that two former Labour parliamentary candidates in the constituency had joined the SDP.

Mr Malone, aged 31, has fought and lost three general elections and has some experience of taking on party leaders. In 1979 he lost to Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, by a 10,000 majority at Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles.

Although a Roman Catholic in a predominantly Protestant constituency, he has the advantage of being a local man, educated at Glasgow University.

He said last night: "We are going to fight an enthusiastic campaign with a united party. We do not believe we shall lose and we shall be fighting a campaign on issues, not on personalities."

Mr Malone's endorsement came as a surprise after Mr Leonard Turpie, also a solicitor, failed to be chosen for the final selection meeting last night, when about 150 members of the Conservative Association voted by secret ballot after a two-hour meeting.

Mr Turpie had been considered until recently as his apparent successor to Mr Thomas Galbraith, who died earlier this month. He was 33 years old at the last general election in 2002.

But Mr Turpie was not selected for the final run off and Mr Malone defeated Mr Robert Kernohan, a journalist and former general secretary of the Conservative Central Office in Scotland.

Earlier, Mr Jenkins, on a brief visit to Glasgow, took delight in announcing that Mr David Welsh, who fought the general election in Hillhead in 1974 for Labour, and Mr Vincent Cable, a contender in the 1970 election, had joined the SDP.

They are immensely welcomed by the former deputy leader of the Labour Party said.

Mr Welsh, aged 42, a school teacher, comes from solid Labour stock and his departure would widen the gap between EEC and world commodity prices, and set back any serious attempt to reform the common agricultural policy.

The Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance said the move would add a further £37m a year to the industries' bill. More than three-quarters of the foodstuffs they purchased were covered by the CAP.

Mr Alex McClelland, chairman of the alliance's joint supply committee, said that increases on such a scale ran directly counter to the British Government's efforts to reduce the rate of inflation. He called on Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to isolate Britain from the effects of the commission's proposals by revaluing the green pound.

Mrs Lynda Cheker, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, told the Commons that there would be no change in the supplementary benefit rules for school-leavers until September, next year, when the new training initiative comes into force.

Clergy seek right to be MPs

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

A move to change the law so that clergy of the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church would be eligible to stand for Parliament has been started in the General Synod of the Church of England.

A motion to that effect has been tabled by the Archbishop of Derby, the Ven R. S. Delli, and has received sufficient members' signatures in support to guarantee its debating time at the synod's meeting next month. Coincidentally, the issue has recently been raised by the provisional adoption of Rev Malcolm Smart, the vicar of Great Gressford, Middlesex, as prospective Labour candidate for Bexley, Erith and Crayford. He stated that he was seeking release from Holy Orders, although he would prefer not to, so that he could take his seat in Parliament.

The repeal of the Disqualification of the Clergy Act of 1901 would cover all who are in common law, in Holy Orders, including, therefore, priests of the Roman Catholic and of the Orthodox churches.

Clergy of the Free churches are not regarded as in Holy Orders in this context, and a few have been elected to Parliament in the past. However, present church unity proposals before the Church of England and the Methodist and United Reformed churches would, if implemented, bring Free church ministers of those churches within the scope of the 1801 ban.

In circles concerned with church-state relations the issue of clergymen in the Commons is usually coupled with the place of Church of England bishops in the Lords. Although church leaders have said in the past that they were prepared to see that privilege reviewed in the context of a general reform of the Lords, they would not, and since the Reformation, a royal command has been delivered to the chapter at the time of the election, naming the man to be elected. Penalties for defying the royal will used to be a large embarrasment, but have now been abolished.

The Synod will also consider a change in the rule requiring all clergy to take an oath of allegiance to the Queen before accepting certain offices in the Church of England. This has sometimes prevented Anglican clergy who are not British subjects, particularly from countries like the United States, from accepting positions.

The proposed change would bring both matters under the discretion of the local bishop, a relaxation in one direction but a tightening up of discipline in the other.

The Synod will be asked to consider changes in the ceremonial procedures, which accompany the appointment of a bishop, to exclude the "sham" of an election by the dean and chapter of which the result is a foregone conclusion.

Under a custom which survives from the Middle Ages, the senior clergy of the diocesan cathedral have to vote for the candidate nominated. There is never more than one, and since the Reformation, a royal command has been delivered to the chapter at the time of the election, naming the man to be elected. Penalties for defying the royal will used to be a large embarrasment, but have now been abolished.

The Synod will also consider a change in the rule requiring all clergy to take an oath of allegiance to the Queen before accepting certain offices in the Church of England. This has sometimes prevented Anglican clergy who are not British subjects, particularly from countries like the United States, from accepting positions.

Anger over agriculture price rise proposals

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The European Commission's proposals for a 9 per cent increase in agricultural prices have provoked a 16 per cent increase in the price of food, according to the European Federation of farmers' unions.

Condemning what he called "thoughtless and cruel" remarks about the alleged prosperity of farmers, he told the annual meeting of the NFU's Isle of Wight branch that net farm income in the United Kingdom was nearly £300m less in 1980 than in 1976. When allowance was made for inflation, real income had declined by over 50 per cent in those four years.

Mr Cyril Coffin, director general of the Food Manufacturers' Federation, described the proposed increases as a "severe blow".

Higher prices for important raw materials like cereal, milk products and sugar would make it difficult for manufacturers to continue keeping the prices of their own products below the rate of inflation, he said.

Mothers-to-be warned about too much dieting

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Excessive slimming among women at the time when they conceive can reduce their chances of having a healthy baby, it was said yesterday.

Mrs Margaret Wynn and Mr Arthur Wynn, a scientist, authors of a new report, "Preventing handicaps among newborn children", said that a woman's dietary, smoking and drinking habits at the time of conception are more likely to affect the health of her baby than her habits later in pregnancy.

"For parents to eat well before conception and during early pregnancy is shown by world medical records to be more important than the mother's diet late in pregnancy, when the unborn baby is much greater capacity for eating what he needs from the mother and for looking after himself," Mr Wynn said.

"Many medical drugs and pollutants are also most damaging around the time of conception and in early pregnancy," Mr Wynn said that common medical drugs such as aspirin and cocaine increase the risk particularly for women who are ill-fed.

A blood test could help doctors to diagnose depression more accurately and markedly improve its treatment, a symposium at The Priory hospital, Northampton, London was told yesterday (Nicholas Thompson writes).

The test, known as the "dexamethasone" - suppression test, measures the response of a particular hormone in the blood to a synthetic steroid. The hormone level in patients whose depression is due to a biochemical or other unhappy event drops markedly. But in those depressed by a long-term process, the hormone levels remain high.

Dr Alec Coppen, director of the Medical Research Council, Neuro-Psychiatry Research Laboratory at Epsom, whose laboratory is heading a World Health Organisation study of the test said it seemed to be very sensitive. In one set of studies 81 per cent of patients who had been diagnosed by conventional means as suffering from endogenous depression produced the abnormal response.

If further studies confirm its early promise, the test should enable doctors to select the right drugs to treat different types of depression, he said. The test will be used also to discover when recovery has begun. If treatment is halted too early patients relapse, but there are widely differing opinions among doctors on how long treatment should last to prevent that happening.

"This is an exciting development, which if it lives up to its promise could markedly improve the treatment of depression," Dr Coppen said. "It is a relatively simple and cheap test and could certainly be used by general practitioners."

Art evidence delay denied

By Geraldine Norman, Sales Room Correspondent

Mr John Baskett, chairman of the Society of London Art Dealers, said yesterday that the society's lawyers were still in possession of evidence on the issue of the buyers' premiums introduced last year by Sotheby's and Christie's.

Mr Baskett, who announced earlier this year that the society would be launching the material to the Office of Fair Trading, was replying to charges of unnecessary delays.

The society and the British Antique Dealers Association, have instructed their lawyers to hand over the evidence in full. However, Waterhouse and Co, their solicitors, are having a big job sorting the files into order.

Mr Richard Crowdon, of Waterhouse, said yesterday that the sorting could take a few more days. Sorting papers, which had been introduced as evidence by the auctioneers to support points they originally intended to make in court, was one of the delaying problems he cited. A High Court action brought by the dealers against Sotheby's and Christie's was settled out of court last September.

Mr Crowdon said that his firm had written to the Office of Fair Trading last week to let them know that the material was on its way.

The Office of Fair Trading confirmed yesterday that they had received the letter.

Overseas sell'n prices: Austria 28.40, Belgium 28.40, Canada 28.40, Denmark 28.40, France 28.40, Germany 28.40, Greece 28.40, Italy 28.40, Japan 28.40, Korea 28.40, Netherlands 28.40, Norway 28.40, Portugal 28.40, Spain 28.40, Sweden 28.40, Switzerland 28.40, Taiwan 28.40, Thailand 28.40, United Kingdom 28.40, USA 28.40, Yugoslavia 28.40.

Water authorities in Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands have identified about 2,000 different toxic impurities in Rhine water; even so, one estimate suggests that three quarters of the impurities present are as yet unidentified. The Rhine is an important source of drinking water in the region.

Companies using Rhine water for the production of drinking water issue an annual report on the quality of the river water. In 1980 the Rhine carried, inter alia, the following substances across the Dutch-German border near Lobitz: mercury, 16 tons; arsenic, 322 tons; cadmium, 80 tons; lead, 1,200 tons; copper, 280 tons; oil, 8,900 tons; phenols, 40 tons; chlorinated hydrocarbons, 48 tons; benzene, 4 tons; polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), 20 tons.

Dumping, quasi-legal and otherwise, by Rhine and other rivers (including the North Sea, the British) continues despite such international measures as the European Water Charter and the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution. The booklet's authors note.

The tribunal organizers clearly expect a "winner" of "convictions", which, properly orchestrated, could prove a huge embarrasment to the UK government.

Source: The Problem of Water, (Stichting International Water Tribunal, Dordrecht 3711) 1012 LK, Amsterdam).

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New for patient

From John Witherow

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**By Marcel Berlins, Legal Correspondent**

## New chance for kidney patients

# Anger over child road deaths

## Council inquiry into chief's plan to marry

### From Our Correspondent, Ludlow

A council has decided to set up a committee of inquiry into matters surrounding the relationship between its woman chairman and the chief executive.

Three councillors and a barrister will consider the position of Mr Norman James, aged 55, chief executive of the Wyre Forest District Council, Hereford and Worcester, who recently announced his intention of divorcing his wife and marrying Mrs Jean Munslow, the council chairman.

Councillors decided by 21 votes to 13, during a meeting in closed session, not to suspend Mr James during the investigation. Mrs Munslow remained in the chair during the meeting.

The committee of inquiry has also been instructed to look into any related matters that may attract attention. Some councillors are known to be concerned that the relationship may breach the local government code of conduct.

After the meeting Mr Graham Ballinger, chairman of the council's planning and highways committee, announced his immediate resignation from the council. He said he believed an impartial investigation would be impossible unless Mr James was suspended.

"I am concerned about the attitude the chief executive has adopted throughout this matter", Mr Ballinger said. "I am also concerned that public money is being spent to employ a legal adviser from outside when the whole matter is bound to be cramped by the presence of the person they are looking into.

"I question the ability of any inquiry to investigate the capability and credibility of a senior member of the authority while that member of staff remains in post. It is naive to assume that any inquiry could be impartial while the chief executive has full access to all departments.



Michael Scott, at Lord Halifax's estate, near York.

## Game for a first

From Our Correspondent, York

When Michael Scott first donned his deer stalker he raised a few aristocratic eyebrows. For at 30 he had fulfilled an ambition to lay claim to the title of Britain's first black gamekeeper.

After hundreds of letters in search of a worthwhile job he settled in as head man on a 2,500-acre estate owned by Lord Halifax's family, near York. And no one caused a flap when he made his debut in charge of the game for this season's shooting.

"I've lived in the country all my life and you don't find much prejudice here," he said yesterday. "My bosses are more bothered about how well I do the job than the colour of my skin. There is a lot of competition for the few jobs in gamekeeping and if there was any racial bias I wouldn't have stood a chance."

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## Pope to tour scene of Toxteth riots

### From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

The Pope will tour the Western area of Liverpool where he visits the city on May 15. His route will take him along the street which was the scene of civil violence last July. His motorcade will travel along Upper Parliament Street where mobs fought thousands of policemen during the six days of rioting.

The visit has caused problems for the police. Merseyside County Council has said it cannot afford the estimated £600,000 in police overtime pay alone. It is appealing to the Government for financial aid.

More than a million people are expected to line the whole of the 11-mile route from Liverpool airport to the Anglican and Catholic cathedrals where the Pope will conduct services for Christians on May 30.

Protesters have threatened to disrupt the visit and tens of thousands of Irish Catholics are also expected to come to see the Pope. A spokesman for the Liverpool Catholic Archdiocese said: "We are absolutely determined that the Pope's motorcade will be travelling through Toxteth. After all the troubles, it will be a terrific boost to the morale of the people that live in the area".

"I am sure that, like everywhere else the Pope will go in Liverpool, there will be groups of people there to see him."

The news was given a cool reception from black community leaders in the area. Mr Michael Showers of the Liverpool 8 Defence Committee said: "We wrote to his Holiness sometime ago asking him to come to Toxteth to view the problems first hand. Obviously we are pleased he will be driving through the area, but then Mrs Thatcher did the same thing. What good does a car ride do? It doesn't achieve anything."

"We would like to show the Pope the institutionalized racism that operates in Liverpool".

□ Mr Michael Montague, the chairman of the English Tourist Board, has said a big tourist campaign could transform Liverpool into a thriving centre of leisure and entertainment. He called on businessmen and politicians to join a "national day to show" an act of "national faith" in Merseyside.

A grainy, black and white photograph of a man in a dark jacket and hat, holding a rifle, standing in a wooded area. The image is high-contrast and appears to be a photocopy or a low-quality scan. The man is positioned in the center-left of the frame, facing slightly to the right. He is holding a long-barreled rifle vertically in front of him. The background consists of dark, vertical shapes that suggest trees or a dense forest. The overall quality is poor, with significant noise and speckling throughout the image.

**Michael Scott, at Lord Halifax's estate, near York.**

# Reading test broke Race Act

**By Lucy Hodges**

A Northampton food manufacturing company, which asked job applicants to read safety signs in English before being taken on as factory hands has been found to have broken the Race Relations Act.

Henry Telfer Ltd of Northampton employs 200 people of whom about 19 per cent were born abroad. Last year the personnel manager decided to introduce a literacy test for job applicants, which involved reading signs written in English. In doubt if these candidates had to read one sign in health and another on safety.

Following that, three people, one born in India and two in Italy, were refused jobs. They complained to an industrial tribunal, with the help of the Commission for Racial Equality, and the tribunal decided by two votes to one that the company had indirectly discriminated against Messrs Guiseppe Laporta and Alfredo Marrazo and against Mrs Manjula Shah.

In a written decision the tribunal said it did not think the decision was justified, and the company of signs made more use of picture signs. The two men had considerable experience of factory work and had encountered no problems and, without a rug, many other immigrants in the firm had not done the test were working satisfactorily.

"Obviously, members of an immigrant community will have problems in reading written English. If they cannot get this type of work what other type of work will be able to obtain? It will severely harm their employment prospects. It will have a disproportionate effect on this community."

The tribunal added that the way to resolve the difficulty of people not being able to read important signs was for

The entire structure of the North Sea oil taxation system, which is forecast to make more than £5 billion for the Exchequer in the present financial year, was criticized by the Comptroller and Auditor General yesterday.

The criticism, delivered as a special report to Parliament, could well embarrass the Chancellor to the Exchequer, who has promised to make a definitive announcement on permanent new fiscal arrangements in his Budget statement on March 9.

Mr Gordon Downey, the Government's independent auditor, said that it was inevitable that the oil taxation system would be complex.

But his report suggested that the uncertainties of the system could cause serious damage to the oilfield economy.

He also pointed out that the effectiveness of the system had been thrown into doubt by the fact that the advanced computerized accounting run by the Revenue had been unable to give accurate assessments of oilfield profitability.

Mr Downey says in his report that the Government and the oil companies need to be certain of the results of changes in taxation if the Government is to be able to achieve its objectives."

But he adds: "Under the present multi-layered structure, with each element assessed on a significantly different basis, an adjustment in one element is likely to be compounded in ways with one or other of the other elements."

"This tends to make the results of taxation adjustments difficult to assess."

The report also suggests that the remainder of the language of the Exchequer and Audit Department, is

their fellow employees to "tell them what they meant." We think it's more likely than not some of the existing workforce could not read the signs when they started; there has been no direct evidence as to whether they can read signs, but some of the substantial multiracial composition of the workforce, we think it a realistic possibility if they can't read signs, that some of our employees could not."

Mr. D. C. James, the dissenting member of the tribunal though the literacy test was justified was reasonable: measure to improve efficiency. The company wanted to improve the quality of its workforce and ran a risk with employees who could not read signs.

"In addition to any serious problems arising out of failure, such as the employee putting his hand in a machine of putting poison in the pork pies, there is the day-to-day risk of such an employee who has failed the test not being as receptive to orders as an employee who has passed."

There was evidence that the company was making

Susantha Karunaratne, aged 38, was described as a lying hypocrite by Judge Abдела, who said: "There must be a deterrent sentence in this case. I look on this paper as disgraceful."

Karunaratne, of Austin Road, was convicted of kidnapping Reem al Harithi near her home in Knightsbridge, London, on June 23 last year, holding her prisoner in a flat at Kingsbury, North London, and demanding £150,000 from her father, Major General Mashhour Al Harithi, 55, a former Saudi Arabian military attache in London.

Mr Allan Green, for the prosecution, said that the girl was abducted while Karunaratne was supposed to be

## North Sea oil tax structure criticized

**By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent**

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Mr Downey says in his report that the Government and the oil companies need to be certain of the results of changes in taxation if the Government is "to be sure of achieving its objectives".

But he adds: "Under the present multi-layered structure, with each element reassessed on a significantly different basis, an adjustment in one element is likely to have the effect of a complex way with one or other of the other elements."

"This tends to make the results of taxation adjustments difficult to assess."

The implicit suggestion of the report is that the language of the Exchequer and Audit Department, is

that the uncertainties of the present system could damage long-term prospects in the North Sea.

Mr Downey points out that the Chancellor has promised the oil companies that he will consider representations on oil levy reform in time for his Budget this year.

The Comptroller says that that will give the Treasury "an opportunity to look again at the basic structure of the regime".

Nevertheless, Sir Geoffrey also told the Commons last year, when he introduced yet another tax element, supplementary petroleum duty, that "exhaustive consideration" had failed to produce any satisfactory reform.

The oil industry's main representative bodies submitted proposals for reform last October.

But if the Chancellor decides against reform, yesterday's report from Mr Downey will stand in permanent opposition to the existing structure.

For the Comptroller's overall comments are underlined by additional remarks in the "adequacy of the present taxation structure".

He says in a detailed section of his report: "Because of the wide variations in the circumstances of different fields, it is difficult to assess the effects of changes in the tax arrangements on the profitability of the North Sea oil fields, and hence the likely impact on the level of further investment there."

That reflected such items as the effect of tax changes, rates of inflation, and exchange rates.

But, Mr Downey reports: "Their best estimate of the post-tax internal rates of return on fields currently being developed or under development ranged from about 5 to 30 per cent in real terms."

## CHAUFFEUR JAILED FOR KIDNAP

A chauffeur who organized the kidnapping of his Saudi Arabian employer's daughter, aged 11, was jailed for 15 years by the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Susantha Karunaratne, aged 38, was described as a lying hypocrite by Judge Abdalla, who said: "There must be a deterrent sentence in this case. I look on this matter as disgraceful."

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Major General Mashhour Al Farhathi, aged 55, a former Saudi Arabian military attaché in London.

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## NEWS IN SUMMARY

## Line on a map kills 70 jobs

An outdated boundary line is preventing Mr. Dennis Whitford, a chartered mechanical engineer who has invented a device to monitor stock levels of any kind of liquid, from receiving a loan to expand his factory, and now he is thinking of moving abroad (Ronald Kershaw writes from Harrogate).

The development of Fuel Pumps Ltd. of Harrogate, would create more than 70 jobs and North Yorkshire County Council was ready to provide the finance until an agreement was reached with the Harrogate Urban Sanitary Authority (Land Act 1963). That forbids the council from making loans in areas outside the former North Riding of Yorkshire, and Harrogate was in the old West Riding.

Mr. Whitford said last night: "I am having so many problems in the United Kingdom my thoughts are coming round to the Continent. People on the Continent are having no trouble with EEC grants which the British taxpayer contributes".

## Pay cut agreed to save jobs

The 2,000 workers at the eight factories of the Christie Tyler group in South Wales have agreed to raise wages cut and to go without a raise this year, after hearing that damage to some factories during the recent blizzards and losses in sales had cost £800,000.

When the wage cuts up to 1,000 jobs might have had to go, Mr George Williams the chairman said at the company's headquarters in Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.

Three years ago the firm said some shop floor workers were earning more than £10,000 a year. In the first half of last year company losses topped £445,000.

## Man dies in fire on 25th floor

A man died yesterday in a fire on the top floor of a 25-storey tower block in Wyndford Road, in the Maryhill district of Glasgow. An elderly woman and a student were taken to hospital suffering from the effects of smoke.

Residents were moved from the four uppermost floors of the building. Firemen took more than an hour to control the blaze.

## Driving ban for soccer player

Alan Sunderland, the Arsenal soccer player, was fined £100 and banned from driving for one year by Tottenham magistrates yesterday after admitting driving with excess alcohol.

Sunderland, aged 28, of Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, had been involved in an accident at midnight on July 10 in Enfield, London, in which a man aged 43 and a woman aged 46 were killed.

The prosecution, which offered no evidence on a careless driving charge, said it did not attribute blame "in any way" for the accident.

## Wenlock Edge cash appeal

The National Trust yesterday launched an appeal for £100,000 to buy one of Shropshire's best-known beauty areas. The Shropshire Hills appeal will be used to acquire part of the Wenlock Edge escarpment, ensuring improved public access.

The trust plans to buy nearly 200 acres, including part of the old Much Wenlock to Craven Arms railway.

## Armed bank raid

Two masked raiders, one armed with a shotgun, escaped with £2,500 in bank notes from a branch of the National Westminster Bank in Mapperley, Nottinghamshire, yesterday. The police believe the same men were responsible for a similar robbery at a Nottingham branch of the Trustee Savings Bank three weeks ago.

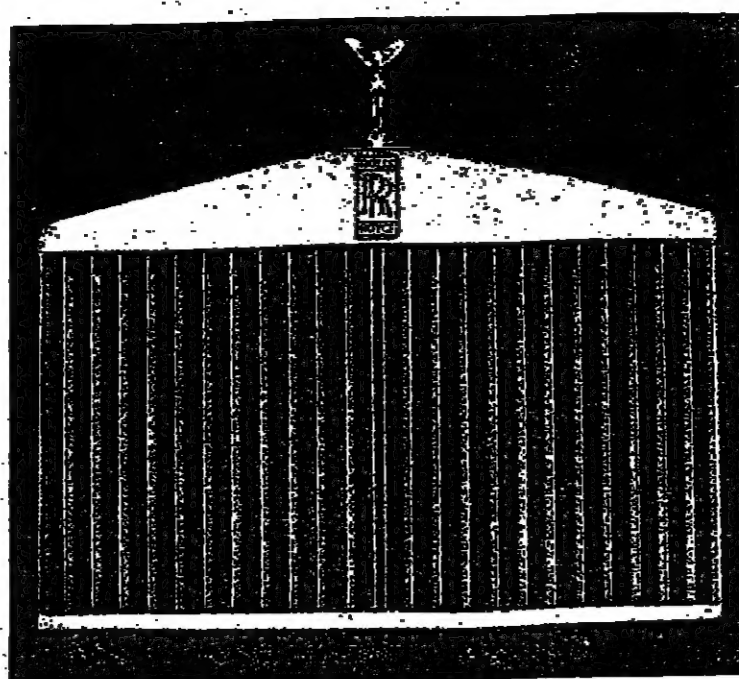


**Productivity  
doubled  
at BL Cars  
biggest plant**

Productivity at Longbridge—home of the Metro and the Mini—has more than doubled in just twelve months.

 **Fighting back**



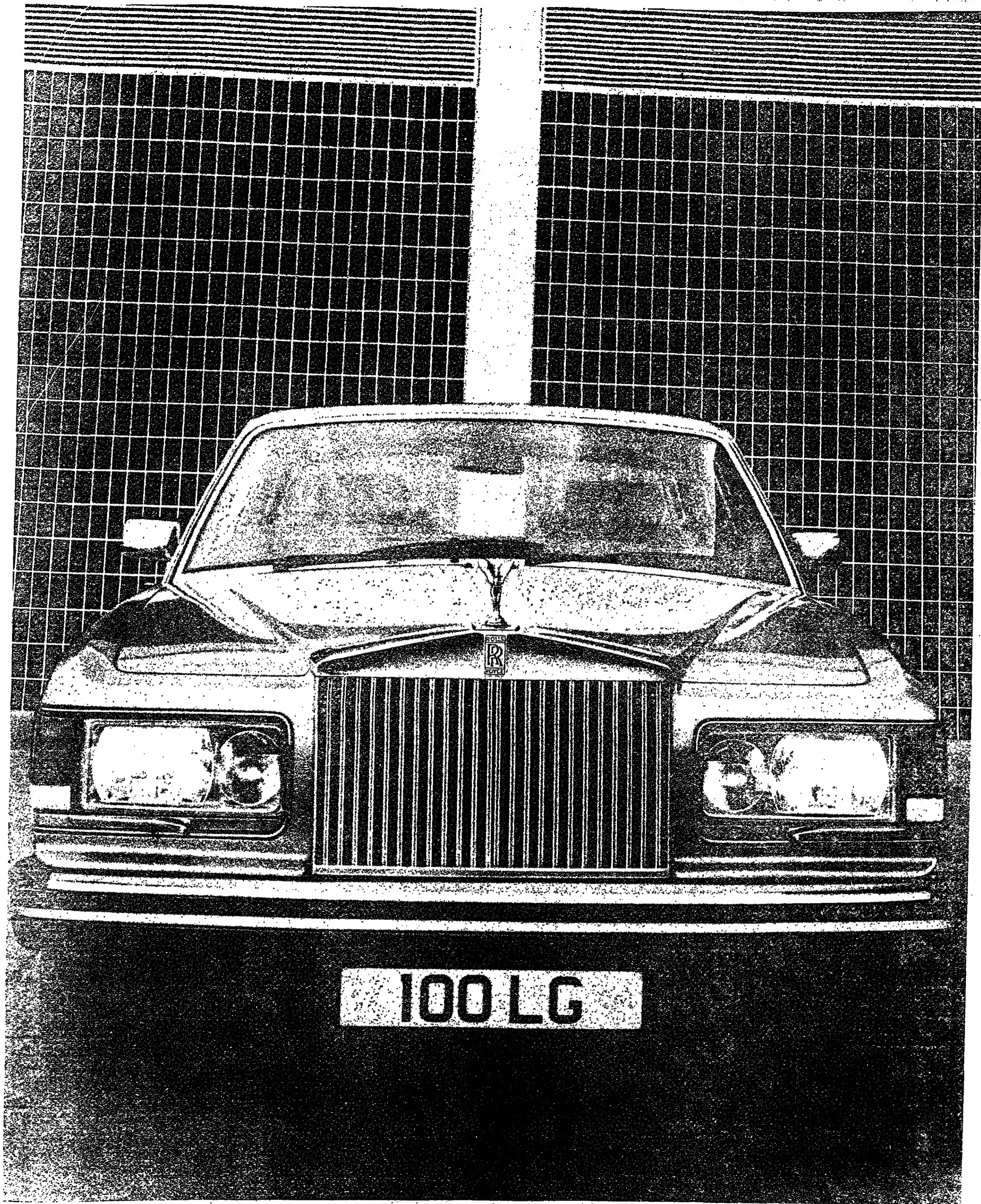


Vladimir Ilyich Lenin  
 Guglielmo Marconi  
 George Bernard Shaw  
 Elvis Presley  
 David Lloyd George  
 Sir Edwin Lutyens  
 Sir Banister Fletcher  
 Prince Chula Birabongse of Siam  
 Gracie Fields  
 Sir Billy Butlin  
 H.M. The King of Serbia  
 Henry Curtis-Bennet K.C.  
 Douglas Fairbanks  
 Pierre Michelin  
 Howard Hawks  
 Sir Frederick Henry Royce  
 Ernest Hemingway  
 Claude Johnson  
 Hugh Trevor-Roper  
 Vladimir Horowitz  
 Mae West  
 Baron Edouard de Rothschild  
 The Nizam of Hyderabad  
 W.R. Vanderbilt  
 The Maharajah of Mysore  
 Sir Jesse Boot  
 J. Arthur Rank  
 Lord Kitchener  
 Tommy Sopwith  
 H.M. King Carol of Rumania  
 Lord Beaverbrook  
 Sir Malcolm Campbell  
 J. Pierpont Morgan  
 Roberto Rossellini  
 The Marquis of Crewe  
 H.I.M. Haile Selassie  
 The Maharajah of Cooh Behar  
 The People's Republic of China  
 (Unknown purchaser)  
 General Franco  
 Gary Cooper  
 The Third Duke of Westminster  
 Nubar Gulbenkian  
 Alfred Bird  
 Sir John French  
 Lord Fisher  
 The Marquis of Exeter  
 Lord Birkenhead  
 Lord Baden-Powell  
 Edgar Wallace  
 W.D. Wills  
 R. D'Oyly Carte  
 The Maharajah of Patiala  
 Jack Warner  
 Jack L. Warner  
 S. Gestetner  
 Pola Negri  
 Sax Rohmer  
 Sir Terence Rattigan  
 R.C. Sherriff  
 Cary Grant  
 W. Somerset Maugham  
 Peter Sellers  
 Marshal Tito  
 Aristotle Onassis  
 Greta Garbo  
 Lawrence of Arabia  
 President Woodrow Wilson  
 Marie, Dowager Empress of Russia

For seventy-eight years Rolls-Royce motor cars have been owned by the men and women who shape history.

This list represents just a few of the great names who have owned Rolls-Royce motor cars. Subsequent advertisements will include many more. If you know of someone who you feel deserves to be included in such a list, do not hesitate to contact Rolls-Royce Motors.





## They still are.

This is the Silver Spirit. Rolls-Royce Motors believe it is the best motor car they have yet produced.

The suspension system means that it handles and corners better than any previous model.

The famous Rolls-Royce engine is as quiet and durable as it has ever been.

And Rolls-Royce engineers feel that the body is the most pleasing

combination of aerodynamics and styling they have yet achieved.

For seventy-eight years, Rolls-Royce Motors have been striving to improve on the best car in the world. They still are.





## Fortnight for survey of De Lorean affairs

As I informed the House on January 19, it is the Government's intention that such matters as the board's membership should be included in the proposed independent consultants survey. In this regard, I can now inform the House that Coopers and Lybrand have been appointed to carry out this survey and report within 14 days.

Nothing in the Government's present words or actions should be taken as committing any further Government assistance or comfort to the De Lorean company. The directors of the company have said that, continuing to trade, they will not incur any credit which they cannot meet.

Mr. Cryer: Would he agree that this was a massive public contribution to this company there ought to be a majority shareholding on behalf of the taxpayers? Would he also accept that the two directors who have watched £2m go to Lotus Cars via a Panamanian company and proposed houses of £400,000 to the directors last month, should be replaced?

It is a disgrace that after contributing £3m the taxpayer should be asked to provide a further £2m to provide certain future jobs by public ownership under the National Enterprise Board.

Does he accept that this particular private enterprise venture appears to be a rip-off for the taxpayer?

Mr. Butler: It was the Labour Government of which he was a member which came to the arrangement with Mr. De Lorean and if that Government with its philosophy in regard to nationalisation was not prepared to have a majority shareholding, he will not be surprised if I do not agree with his proposal.

Mr. James Kilfedder (North Down, UUP): It is a disgrace that after contributing £3m the taxpayer should be asked to provide a further £2m to provide certain future jobs by public ownership under the National Enterprise Board.

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## Still some way to go — Prior

ULSTER

There was a momentum in Northern Ireland towards some form of devolved administration, said Mr. James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, in a speech to the House of Commons on January 28.

Mr. Prior said that the momentum was growing and that the people of Northern Ireland were beginning to see the need for a devolved administration.

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Mr. James McCusker (Armagh, Off. UUP): Inadvertently or otherwise, he is creating a momentum towards a devolved assembly in Northern Ireland which, if it does not lead to a satisfactory conclusion, will lead to further alienation and disenchantment in the community.

Mr. Prior: I recognize there is in Northern Ireland a momentum towards some form of devolved administration. This is a momentum which has not been created entirely by myself, but by the wishes and desires of the people of Northern Ireland, who believe that the time is right for this to happen.

It is as much a matter for the Unionists making their views as much as anything I could say to them (he said to the members of the House).

Mr. Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C): It would be better as a first step before seeking to

impose devolved government on Northern Ireland, to allow them to have the same local government as the rest of the country.

Mr. Prior: I do not think that the same conditions for local government exist in Northern Ireland as in the rest of the country.

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### Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on the new nuclear power programme.

Tuesday: Coal Industry Bill, second reading. New Towns Bill, remaining stages.

Wednesday: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, second reading. Private Bill: Consideration of Lloyd's Bill.

Thursday: Debate on an Opposition motion on the need to improve the lot of the elderly.

Friday: Private Members' Bill: Planning Inquiries (Attendance of Public) Bill and Death Grant Increase Bill, second readings.

### Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills. Food and Drugs Bill, second reading.

House of Lords (2.30): Private Members' Bills. Food and Drugs Bill, second reading.

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## Cabinet decide to keep to broad strategy

PM's QUESTION

At this morning's Cabinet meeting it was thought right to stick to the broad strategy which the Government had followed hitherto, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

The issue has been raised by Mr. Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, who asked: Can she say whether the Cabinet gave any consideration to the plight of the unemployed who have grown in such huge numbers under her administration, and whether she and her Cabinet can be persuaded to restore the £13 a week cut being imposed on so many unemployed families? (Labour cheers.)

Mrs. Thatcher: We had an excellent Cabinet, a very useful discussion. We thought it would be right to continue on the broad strategy which the Government has followed hitherto, and in particular that it was essential to keep the target of 3 per cent reducing inflation, which is one of the best ways to achieve recovery and the prospect of new genuine jobs.

On the earnings related supplement which ceased on January 2 for new claimants, only one in five of the unemployed were entitled to earnings related supplement. (Labour interruptions.)

Mr. Foot: As for the excellent Cabinet, we shall await the usual leakages to see whether her claims are correct.

Has she studied the headline in The Times today which said: "Benefit for jobs at 1951 level"? She has pushed back the pay for people who are unemployed to a lower level than it has been since 1951. When is she going to rectify that? If the Prime Minister cannot stop the numbers of unemployed rising, at least let her show some compassion for the unemployed. (Labour cheers.)

Mrs. Thatcher: Unemployed benefit is now roughly double what it was in 1951 and that is fact and the supplementary benefit safety net remains.

Mr. Dennis Skinner (Bolton, Lab): Quite apart from those unemployed losing earnings-related supplement worth £13 a week, included in the injured miners in hospital in Glasgow, the nurses looking after the miners are being asked to take an 8 per cent wage cut by this government. So don't let us have the Prime Minister telling us there is not enough money in the country when the Duke of Westminster and his cronies (Labour cheers) can pick up a hospital site at Hyde Park Corner for £25,000 when it is worth 20 million quid.

### Compensation for sacked workers

The Employment Bill, presented by Mr. Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, which among other proposals would provide compensation out of public funds for dismissed workers, was discussed in the House of Commons on January 28.

Mr. Tebbit said that the Government was committed to the principle of compensation for dismissed workers, but that it was essential to ensure that the compensation was paid only to those who had been dismissed unfairly.

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### THE ECONOMY

The Government with unimpaired bumbling and doctrinal absurdity had turned the asset of North Sea oil into a liability and fostered on its people the greatest economic disaster it had known in 50 years, Mr. Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman, said during an Opposition debate on the Government's economic policy.

Mr. Shore said that the Government's economic policy was based on a series of contradictions and that it was essential to ensure that the compensation was paid only to those who had been dismissed unfairly.

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as fast as anywhere else giving Britain the highest rate of unemployment for any major industrial country.

Another difference between the first oil shock and the second, was that at the time of the first Britain did not have its own supply of oil yet by 1973-1980 Britain had become self-sufficient and even an exporter of oil. This should have led to a reinforcement of its position, not a diminution.

This Government (he said) with its unimpaired bumbling and doctrinal absurdity had turned the asset of North Sea oil into a liability and fostered on its people the greatest economic disaster it had known in 50 years.

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Along with this marvellous instrument of control of inflation the Government had pursued two other targets: a steady reduction in public expenditure and an accompanying reduction, as it hoped, in the size of the public sector borrowing requirement.

It was the damage that had been done by the pursuit of these two targets, Mr. Shore said, that had led to the present economic disaster.

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developments were taking place in the economy — telecommunications, broadcasting, oil, gas, coal, public transport and aerospace.

If the Government could for a moment take its mind off the prospect of private plunder at the expense of a great nationally-owned resource, it would have almost certainly supported the gas gathering pipeline scheme in the North Sea. The failure to carry forward the project was a setback for the industry.

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It was astonishing to contemplate the conflict between his reckless disregard of any form of financial discipline and the steady reduction in public expenditure and an accompanying reduction, as it hoped, in the size of the public sector borrowing requirement.

Mr. Shore said that the Government's economic policy was based on a series of contradictions and that it was essential to ensure that the compensation was paid only to those who had been dismissed unfairly.



# Government's analysis of Employment Bill

This is the Department of Employment's clause-by-clause analysis of the 1982 Employment Bill.

## Compensation for closed shop victims

Clause 1 and Schedule 1 enable the Secretary of State to make regulations to pay compensation to those who were dismissed for non-membership of a trade union in a closed shop under the last Government's Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974 and 1976, and whose dismissal has not been unfair had the closed shop provisions of the Employment Act 1980 (except those which relate to ballots) been in force. This means people who were dismissed for non-membership in closed shops between the coming into force of the 1974 Act and the coming into force of the 1980 Employment Act and who were either existing employees of their employer at the time the closed shop agreement took effect in their firm of who objected to union membership on grounds of conscience or other deeply held personal conviction. Schedule 1 also sets out the maximum sums of compensation which the Secretary of State may pay (ie broadly what the dismissed person would have been awarded if he had brought a successful complaint of unfair dismissal) and enables him to appoint a person to advise him on applications for compensation.

## Dismissal for non-membership of a trade union

Clause 2 amends Sections 58 and 58A of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, 1978, to enlarge the circumstances in which dismissal for non-membership of a trade union in a closed shop is to be regarded as unfair. The principal new circumstances are:

- Where a closed shop agreement which took effect before August 15, 1980, has not in the five years preceding the dismissal been supported in a secret ballot by 80 per cent of the employees covered by it or 85 per cent of those voting; and
- Where at the time of dismissal the employee concerned has obtained or is seeking from an industrial tribunal a declaration under Section 64 of the Employment Act, 1980 that he has been unreasonably excluded or expelled from his trade union.

For the sake of clarity the amended versions of Sections 58 and 58A are set out in full in clause 2.

Clause 3 puts a minimum of £2,000 (subject to reduction on account of the dismissed employee's conduct before dismissal) on any basic award of compensation which may be made to a person unfairly dismissed for non-membership of a trade union or for trade union membership and activities. (At present the basic award in such cases is between 1/2 week's pay and 1 1/2 weeks' pay for each complete year of employment (depending on age) subject to a maximum of £3,500 but not to a minimum.)

Clause 4 creates a new award of compensation, called the "special award", for those who are dismissed unfairly because of non-membership of a trade union or because of trade union membership or activities. The special award will be made in such cases where the dismissed employee asks the tribunal to make an order for reinstatement or reengagement, whether or not the tribunal decides to make such an order. Where the order is made, the amount of special award will be 104 weeks' pay subject to a minimum of £10,000 and a maximum £20,000. Where an order is not made, the employee is not reinstated or reengaged, the amount of the special award will be 156 weeks' pay subject to a minimum of £15,000. In both cases the special award is additional to any basic or compensatory award. The special award as well as the basic and compensatory awards may be reduced on account of the employee's conduct before dismissal.

Clause 5 enables an employee who is claiming to have been dismissed unfairly for not being a member of a trade union to "join" as a party to the unfair dismissal proceedings any trade union or other person who he claims put pressure on the employer to dismiss him by calling or threatening industrial action. Currently only employers can "join" unions in this way. Where a trade union or other person is "joined" in the proceedings the tribunal finds that it did exert pressure on the employer to dismiss unfairly, the tribunal can award compensation for the unfair dismissal wholly or partly against the union or other person rather than against the employer.

Clause 6 enables those who claim they have been unfairly dismissed for non-membership of a trade union to apply for "interim relief" (ie for an order continuing their employment until their claim of unfair dismissal is heard). Under Section 77 of the 1978 Act interim relief is already available to those dismissed for trade union membership or activities.

## Selective dismissal in a strike

Clause 7 applies to an employee who is dismissed while taking part in a strike. An employee will not be able to claim unfair dismissal provided that his employer has (i) given notice to every employee on strike that any employee who does not return to work within a specified period of at least four working days may be dismissed; (ii) not dismissed the employee in question before the expiry of the specified period; and (iii) dismissed all employees taking part in the strike at that time. Clause 7 does not affect the employer's existing right to dismiss strikers without notice.

## Action short of dismissal

Clause 8 extends an employee's right not to have action short of dismissal taken against him by his employer, in order to compel him to be a trade union member, to the additional circumstances in which his dismissal for non-membership of a trade union would be unfair under the new provisions of clause 2.

Clause 9 extends the new provisions described under clause 5 to cases of action short

of dismissal for non-membership of a trade union.

Union labour only requirements: Clause 10 makes void any term in a commercial contract requiring the contractor to use only union labour (or only non-union members) in fulfilling the contract. It also makes it unlawful to terminate a contract to exclude from a tender list of to refuse to invite tenders from or make a contract with a person on the grounds that anyone employed or likely to be employed to fulfil the contract is, or is not a union member.

Clause 11 removes the legal immunities from trade unions and other persons who put pressure on an employer to act contrary to clause 10. It also removes the immunities from those who organise action by employees which interferes with the supply of goods or services on the grounds that work done in connection with the supply of those goods or services is or had been performed by non-union or union members.

## Trade union immunities

Clause 12 repeals Section 14 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974. This removes the legal immunities for trade unions (and employers' associations) into line with those for individuals, with the effect that trade unions may be held liable for unlawful acts committed outside a trade dispute and for action which is already made unlawful by the Employment Act, 1980. The clause describes the circumstances in which a trade union is to be regarded as liable for the unlawful acts of its officials.

Clause 13 puts upper limits on damages which may be awarded against a trade union in civil proceedings (except in some cases of personal injury or connected with the ownership of property). The limits are defined by reference to the number of members in a trade union: fewer than 5,000 members, £10,000; 5,000 to 24,999 members, £50,000; 25,000 to 100,000 members, £125,000; more than 100,000 members, £250,000.

Clause 14 specifies certain property from which damages costs or expenses may not be recovered in any proceedings against a trade union or employers' association.

## Trade disputes

Clause 15 amends the definition of a "trade dispute" in Section 29 of the 1974 Act. It specifies that a trade dispute must be between workers and their employer, and removes from Section 29 disputes between workers and workers. It requires that a trade dispute must relate wholly or mainly to the subjects in Section 29(1) of the 1974 Act, rather than merely be connected with them. The clause also excludes disputes relating to matters outside the United Kingdom unless the person taking action in Great Britain is likely to be affected by the outcome of the dispute.

## Other provisions

Clause 16 empowers the Secretary of State by order to change from weeks to calendar months or years the periods of continuous employment which determine entitlement to certain statutory employment protection rights and payments. These include redundancy, maternity and guarantee payments and the right to statutory notice and to claim of unfair dismissal.

Clause 17 contains provisions as to interpretation and with Schedules 2 and 3 makes various amendments which are consequential to the main Bill and a number of other minor amendments to the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, 1978. The main minor amendments are briefly explained in the attached.

## Minor amendments

Paragraph 1 enables industrial tribunals to hear complaints that written statements of main terms and conditions of employment are inaccurate.

Paragraph 2 has the effect that, in cases where an employee has resigned because his employer has broken (or shown his intention to break) a fundamental term of the employment contract, the period of service used for calculating whether he qualifies to bring an unfair dismissal claim is extended by a period equal to his statutory minimum notice entitlement. This brings the position into line with that of workers dismissed by their employers without notice.

The amendments to "continuity of employment in certain schools" in paragraph 3 mean that a teacher moving within the same local education authority (LEA) area from one type of LEA school to another will no longer be counted as breaking the continuity of his employment for the purpose of calculating statutory rights. They will also enable a volunteer for redundancy from one type of school in a LEA to become eligible for a redundancy payment when his job is filled by someone from a different type of school within the same LEA whose job has, in fact, come to an end.

Paragraph 4 provides that the maximum eight weeks arrears of pay which may be paid from the redundancy fund to an employee whose employer has become insolvent must, where possible, consist of complete pay weeks. Paragraph 5 enables the Secretary of State to pay without delay debts owed to employees of insolvent employers and payable under the insolvency provisions in circumstances where a delay of six months would at present be needed.

Paragraph 6 extends all the employment protection rights which are enjoyed by employees to employed spouses.

Paragraph 7 enables the Secretary of State to provide by order for interest to accrue on industrial tribunal awards of compensation from the date of the award. This will bring the position of these tribunals into line with the other courts in this respect.

Finally, it has been accepted practice in the Employment Appeal Tribunal for interlocutory matters to be determined by the Registrar or by a judge sitting alone. Paragraph 8 makes it clear beyond doubt in the legislation that the Employment Tribunal has the power to determine interlocutory matters in this way.

## Preacher, wit and master of order

By George Clark

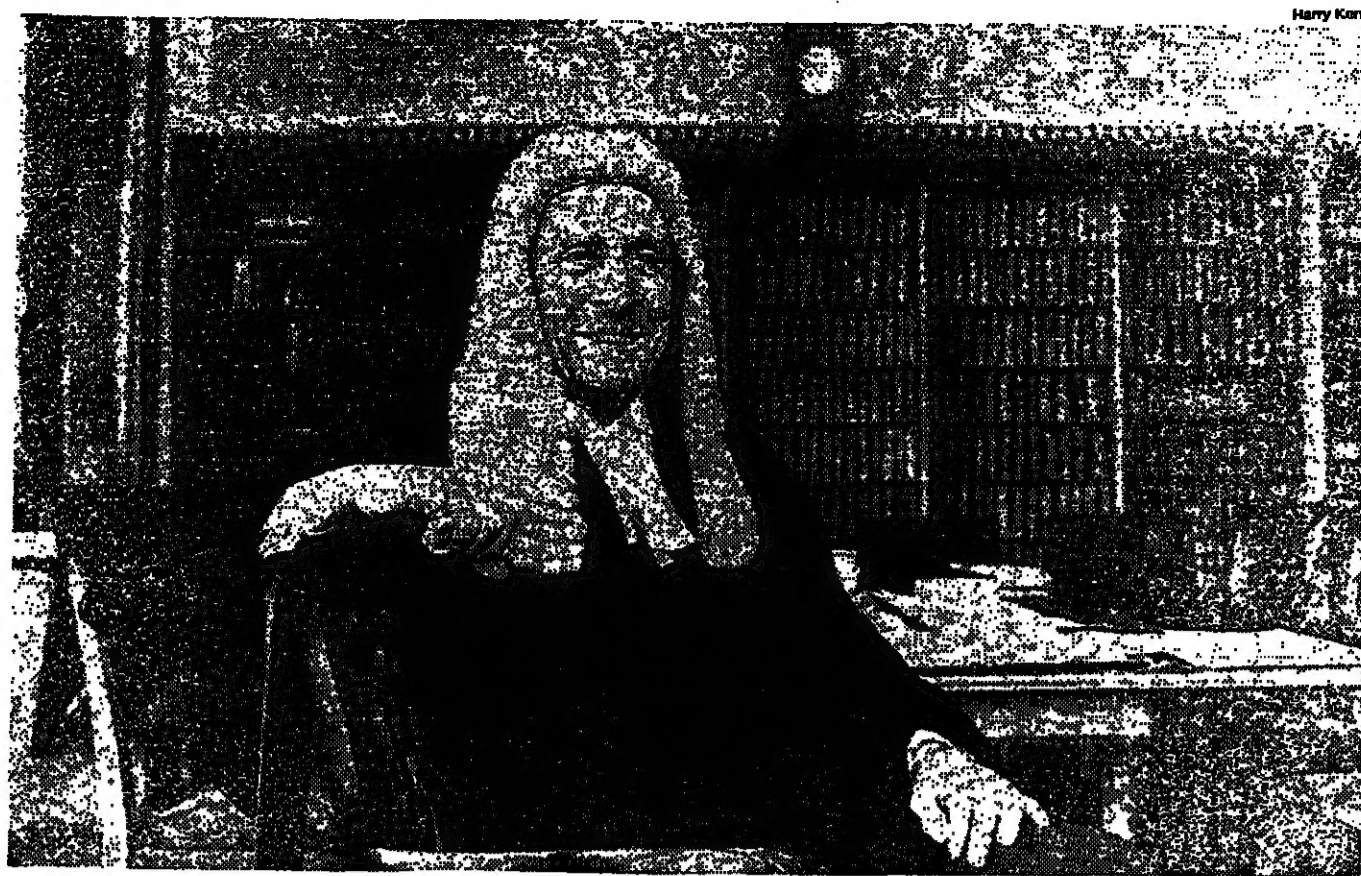
In the days of optimism for regionalists, when the Labour Party was proposing legislation for devolution of power to Scotland and Wales, *The Times* carried a speculative story to the effect that Mr George Thomas, the boy from Tonypandy, a former Methodist lay preacher and schoolmaster, would almost certainly become the first Prime Minister of Wales.

That wistfully amused the Labour MP for Cardiff, West, who did in fact become Secretary of State for Wales from 1968 to 1970, but it really was a typical example of the modesty of a man who celebrates his 73rd birthday today, having been Speaker of the House of Commons since 1976.

There is speculation that he is to retire, or to announce that he will not stand at the next general election.

Mr Clement Freud, Liberal MP for the Isle of Wight, sought leave on Tuesday to introduce a Bill creating a special constituency, without electors, to which the Speaker would be assigned on his election to the Chair. He referred to the newspaper speculation about Mr Thomas not standing again.

Mr Thomas intervened. "Order!" he said. "It is grossly discourteous for the honourable gentleman to refer to my personal position."



Mr George Thomas, who is 73 today, in the Speaker's State Room at the Commons.

He maintains that as Speaker he is in a better position than most MPs in bringing local grievances to the Government's attention.

Mr Thomas likes to recall the battles he fought for leasold reform which remedied a long-standing grievance of thousands of people in South Wales. As a consequence of industrial development, few people owned the leasehold of their homes. When 99-year leases expired, many people either lost their

homes to the ground landlord or had to pay heavily for the freehold.

By fighting that campaign George Thomas built up a popularity which has lasted 30 years. Born in Port Talbot in 1909, he was brought up in the Rhondda. His mother was a Methodist, and when he entered the fray, capturing the seat of Cardiff Central in 1945, she was a powerful guiding force. He has never married.

He now has the well-earned

reputation of being the most humorous of speakers since the war, a man who can bring the most heated bursts of temper to a placid end.

He it was who told a Labour MP that his supplementary question was "even longer than a Methodist sermon," and who commented, in biting tones, when a Scottish MP complained that she could not understand the "scouse of a Liverpool backbencher: "There are many accents in this House. In-

deed, I wish I had one myself."

Mr Thomas still occasionally delivers a sermon in church. In the midst of a tremendous uproar in the House one day he restored order by simply recalling the religious ceremony which precedes every day's sitting. "Order, Order!" he shouted. "It is but an hour since we were praying for heavenly wisdom from on high. Alas, it seems that our prayers are not answered every day."

## Spark may have caused pit blaze

From John Witherow Glasgow

An inquiry into the pit fire at Cardowan Colliery, near Glasgow, continued yesterday as 27 injured miners were still in hospital with burns.

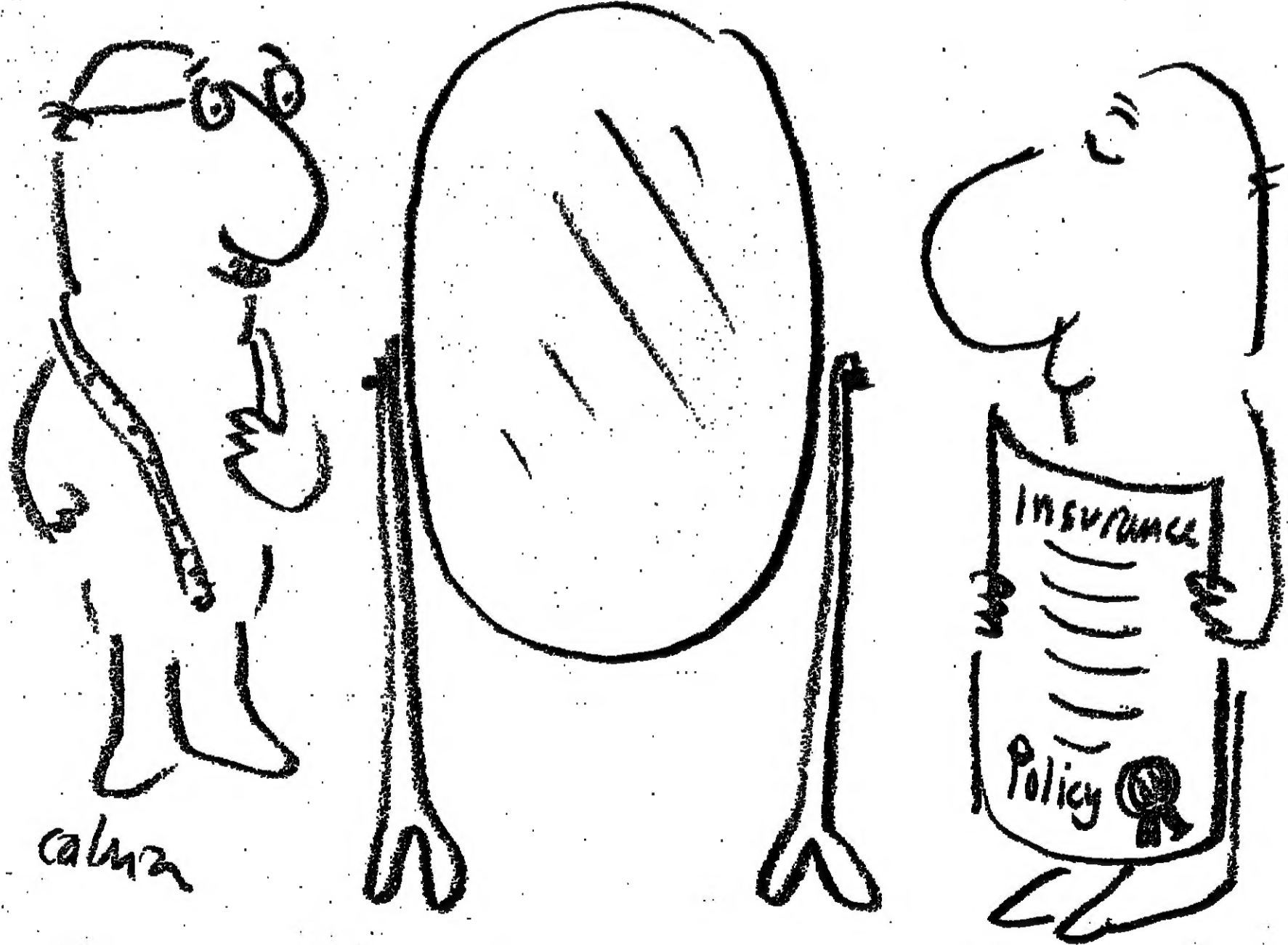
The National Coal Board in Scotland said the result of an investigation, made jointly with engineers from the Mines Inspectorate and representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers, would be made known as soon as possible. The Government has said the findings will be made public.

One theory of the cause of the accident, which sent a shaft 2,000 feet underground, injuring 40 men on Wednesday morning, is that a coal cutter sparked on a stone, igniting high levels of methane gas.

Mr William Grant, aged 30, a miner at the colliery, said: "It was fortunate that the coal dust did not go on fire. If that had happened then God knows what the result would have been."

Seven men were badly burnt and one, Mr John O'Rourke, aged 31, who had a fractured skull was said to be in a critical condition. The condition of the remainder were said to be stable last night.

There seems to be no suggestion that the colliery was dangerous although it was known occasionally to contain high levels of methane.



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## Mediation in Poland

## Secret negotiations may free Walesa into church hands

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 28

The secret talks between the Roman Catholic Church and the Polish Government on the release of Mr Lech Walesa, the detained Solidarity leader, have reached a crucial stage.

For the first time Mr Walesa was accompanied by both legal and church advisers in talks with Mr Josef Ciosek, the Minister for Trade Union Affairs, raising fresh speculation that the Solidarity chairman may soon be transferred into church hands.

The position of Mr Walesa and the whole subject of interment and church-state relations are expected to dominate the meeting next week between the Prime Minister, Mr Jozef Pilsudski, and the Pope. The Pope has been closely following the Polish crisis. The Pope has received and replied to at least one letter from Mr Walesa.

agreed to head a reconstituted depoliticized trade union.

The church, too, would welcome the opportunity to play a mediating role in the considerable gulf between Mr Walesa and the Government, insisting that he will negotiate only with the full Solidarity praesidium most of whom are interned.

Archbishop Glemp recently visited Bielska internment centre where many bishops of the Solidarity praesidium are being held. But he is understood to have come away disappointed, convinced that the union leadership is now even tougher than it was before the military takeover six weeks ago.

The hope is now that the Vatican will be able to cut through some of these problems, though simply putting pressure on the Government is no longer sufficient.

According to sources close to the negotiations, Mr Ciosek visited Mr Walesa last Friday in Koscian, outside Warsaw. Where he is under house arrest. There have been several earlier meetings, but none involving legal experts.

Apart from the two lawyers, Mr Walesa was accompanied by three church advisers including his parish priest, Fr. Jozef Pilsudski, and a vicar, Fr. Jozef Pilsudski, among other things Mr Walesa's legal status. The government has been reluctant to admit that he is formally interned but a letter from Mrs Danuta Walesa his wife, to the Gdansk regional prosecutor brought the issue into the open.

Her husband, she said, had not been charged nor had he been "temporarily detained" because he would have to be released in 48 hours. The government should immediately clarify his status, she said.

That is the first legal step towards his transfer from house arrest to church control. It is understood that there are still a number of problems, above all because the church does not want to be seen taking sides. Its role, church spokesmen repeatedly say is that of mediation.

Over the past few weeks there have been repeated rumours about the imminent release of Mr Walesa, but these have usually underestimated the complexity of such a move. The Government would certainly be happy to release Mr Walesa, providing that brought him closer to

The church estimates the total number interned now roughly tallies with the government figure — about 5,100, according to church sources compared to just under 5,000 announced by General Jaruzelski.

Reports that the Prime Minister's participation in the Vatican trip reflects a broad split in the episcopate have been denied by senior church officials. Originally Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, the Pope's successor as the Archbishop of Cracow, was to have headed the delegation.

There has thus been speculation that the Prime Minister's decision to head the delegation was because he was worried that his more conciliatory approach might not be fully represented by some of the hardliners within the episcopate.

## Gromyko's war taunt against US

Berlin, Jan 28.—Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has accused the United States of trampling on normal international relations in its attitude to Poland.

He said the Government would certainly be happy to release Mr Walesa, providing that brought him closer to

## New grain embargo considered

Washington, Jan 28.—President Reagan is considering the possibility of reimposing a grain embargo on the Soviet Union if the situation in Poland continues to deteriorate.

However, unlike the grain embargo imposed by the Carter Administration in 1979, in protest over the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, he said a new curb on grain sales would be implemented only as part of an overall embargo against the Soviet Union.

He was speaking at a dinner in East Berlin, where he is stopping for two days of talks with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German party leader. Mr Gromyko is on his way home from Geneva, where he said Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State.

Mr Gromyko accused military circles in America of trying to accustom world public opinion to the possibility of a nuclear "first strike", warning "strike" or "demonstration" strikes.

He said Mr Honecker said in a joint statement that they considered substantial progress in American-Soviet arms talks in Geneva was both necessary and possible. Detente must be preserved and the arms race prevented.

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Herr Schmidt's argument that economic and political pressure will not get more freedom for the Poles is shared by 55 per cent, and the same number believe that greater pressure would even threaten world peace.

West Germans seem less sure that the Chancellor can maintain his line. Only 43 per cent thought his policy of restraint, if continued further, would not endanger West Germany's relations and influence with the United States and France, and 35 per cent said it would.

A large proportion — 66 per cent — opposed stopping the grain gas-pipeline deal with the Soviet Union.

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The President's remarks were made during an interview which was broadcast last night by CBS television news. He rejected "charges that he had so far refused to reimpose the grain embargo because of political pressure by the American farm lobby."

At the end of last year the President announced the postponement of talks on a new long-term grain agreement, which is due to expire in September, as part of a seven-point programme of sanctions against the Soviet Union.

Mr Reagan told his interviewer: "I do not exempt the embargoing of grain from one of the things that can be done. But I have always insisted that it should be part of a general embargo, that we shouldn't pick out one sector of our society and say, 'well, you pay the penalty'."

In the interview, the President reaffirmed that his Administration is determined to take further action against the Soviet Union unless three conditions are met in Poland: the release of detainees and a resumption of dialogue between the Government, Solidarity and the Roman Catholic Church. However, he said he was not setting any deadlines.

The President praised the amount of unity which existed among the Western allies in their response to the Polish crisis. Noting that to do anything to undercut the effect of American sanctions, he said: "We have been more united on this subject than we have on any crisis in the last 20 years."



Even abandoned farms, such as this one outside Verona, were searched in the nationwide hunt for General Dozier, which ended 50 miles away in this flat in Padua

## How the Italian commandos 'cracked' Red Brigade

by Our Foreign Staff

It was at 6 pm on December 17 that four men disappeared from the sixth floor apartment in Verona of Brigadier General James Dozier.

Dozier, aged 50, who fought in Vietnam with an armoured regiment, had been in Verona for just over a year as deputy chief of staff for logistics and administration for Allied land forces in southern Europe, and was the senior United States Army officer at the Nato headquarters in Verona. His command included an array of United States Army units, Italian Alpine troops units and a non-nuclear United States air force missile base.

Mrs Judith Dozier opened the door. She was overpowered and bound. Dozier fought the intruders, members of the Red Brigades, who hit him on the head with a pistol.

He was forced into a trunk and loaded into a car, leaving Mrs Dozier tied but unhurt in the apartment. She freed herself and called the police before a caller to the Italian news agency said: "This is the Red Brigades. We have kidnapped Brigadier General James Dozier in Verona, Via Lungo Adige 5, a communiqué will follow."

Dozier was the first foreigner to be taken by the Brigades, which kidnapped and murdered Aldo Moro, the former Prime Minister, in 1978. They issued five communiqués as police throughout Italy searched flats and farmhouses, and stopped cars.

The communiqués said Dozier was being held in a "People's prison." They threatened him with "proletarian justice" for his role in Nato and alleged massacres during his service in Vietnam. One communiqué contained what purported to be a transcript of the General's interrogation and the kidnappers also released two photographs of him posed beneath their banner with the five-pointed Red Brigades star.

There were rumours that the general was about to be released for a ransom said to be as high as \$9.8m (£4.5m) the toughest-willed fifth communiqué appeared to rule out an early release, saying that the working class had

"nothing to negotiate" with the bourgeoisie.

But recently the impression arose that the Red Brigades was not succeeding in stage-managing the operation as it wished. The five communiqués in the 42 days, was a less frequent rate than in previous kidnappings of prominent Italians, and they were full of ideological ramblings with no clear idea of what the Brigatisti wanted. Something was not working.

Five thousand Italian security men were in the hunt with "technical assistance" from Americans. The Italians rounded up a Red Brigades terrorist "column", which operated in the area of Verona. "It was a textbook operation. They cracked the column, the people talked and they followed in every single lead. The did it right and it worked", said a US official yesterday who asked not to be identified.

On January 4, plainclothesmen arrested two alleged terrorists as they drove through central Rome, armed to the teeth and apparently planning a kidnapping. Five days later police charged into another apartment hideout in Rome, arresting one of their top terrorists, Giovanni Serrano, and seizing an arsenal of weapons. Last weekend five more alleged terrorists were arrested in the countryside north of Rome by police hunting the killers of two young policemen in a bank robbery at the central town of Siena.

A special commando unit of the Italian security police located the Padua Apartment on Wednesday night but held off the raid until daytime yesterday, fearing that a night-time attack might endanger the general's life. US officials in Washington were notified and agreed.

Ten handpicked police commandos from a crack anti-terrorist unit formed three years ago in response to the Moro murder were assigned to the raid.

The special agents for security operations are the elite unit of the interior ministry's anti-terrorist squad. Normally wearing camouflaged overalls and carrying gas-masks, they are all marksmen trained to use a range of weapons including



Under arrest, six alleged Red Brigades terrorists. From left, Antonio Savasta, one of the five held yesterday, Ennio Di Rocco and Stefano Petrella, detained in Rome, Pietro Muzzi, Gino Aldi and Gianfranco Fornoni all arrested this year. Savasta, aged 27, has been wanted in connection with the Moro case

bazookas in risky operations against terrorists.

The special agents report to the central operative nucleus for security, known by its Italian acronym Nocs. Their exact numbers and the location of their headquarters are a secret.

The Interior Ministry founded Nocs and recruited the special agents as part of the stepped-up campaign against political violence following the Moro abduction in March, 1978. The Red Brigades killed Moro after the government rejected the terrorists' demand to free a number of their jailed comrades.

Heavily-armed police sealed off the area around the Padua apartment at dawn and set a bulldozer to work nearby to cover the noise of the raid. The commandos broke down the door and grabbed the first terrorist in the hall. A second was overpowered as he aimed to shoot the hostage, huddled in an anorak. The others were spread through the four-room apartment.

All those arrested yesterday, police said, were male and Italian and two were said to be well-known to security forces. There was no hint in the operation of any of the international links which press and politicians in Italy had attributed to the kidnapping.

But in Washington at the State Department, Mr Frank Perez, acting director of the Office for Combating Terrorism, suggested "a foreign connexion". He refused to name any countries or groups. "We have no direct

evidence", he said. "But the various Italian authorities have suggested an external connexion."

Vicenza. — The highest ranking U.S. army General in Italy, jubilantly recounting the return of his second-in-command, said the first thing General Dozier wanted after his release was a barber.

## Gee, it's good to see you, says Dozier

Major General McFadden, commander of the Southern European task force headquarters in Vicenza, Northern Italy, said General Dozier was in excellent health. He said there was no sign that General Dozier had been tortured.

He was quite good-looking with his beard and moustache, but he looks like Jim Dozier now George McFadden told a news conference.

Last night the general was undergoing a physical examination at the base hospital.

His wife Mrs Judith Dozier travelled to the base from West Germany, accompanied by her daughter, Cheryl, and son Scott.

Major General McFadden said the Dozier's would probably stay in the army base for the foreseeable future.

"My goal on the arrival of Mrs Dozier is to get her immediately with her husband, and I intend to say goodbye and close the door, and I'm not going to let anybody except the family get into the quarter", he said.

In his opening statement, the major general said: "All Italians can be quite proud of this victory." He praised the high professionalism of all Italian security men involved in the search.

Extraordinary security measures were in effect at the base. United States soldiers and Italian policemen with automatic weapons guarded all entrances. They used mirrors to search under cars for hidden bombs.

Americans at the Nato base responded with tears and embraces when they heard the news over the public announcement system. There was an immediate emotional response, mostly crying and hugging, tears of joy, U.S. Air Force Captain Herbert Smith said. Asked how General Dozier reacted when they met, Major General McFadden said: "Just about his usual response when we would meet, a very friendly smile, a handshake, and he said 'Gee I'm glad to see you'."

President Reagan said that "a lot of prayers have been answered" when told of the successful rescue.

The President was told the news by Mr William Clark, his national security adviser, shortly before seven o'clock in the morning in Washington. The spokesman quoted the President as saying: "A lot of prayers have been

In London, Mrs Margaret Thatcher congratulated the Italian Government on an "excellent operation." She added: "I would like not only to congratulate the Italian Government but to say how thrilled we all are that he has been found alive. It is a matter of great relief that he has been found alive and restored to his family."

## Reagan may act on Cuba

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 28

President Reagan has indicated that he may consider taking action against Cuba to counter Soviet arms shipments to Havana.

The President refused to comment on persistent reports that Cuba has recently received advanced MiG23s capable of carrying nuclear weapons, but said Cuba was being sent more arms by the Soviet Union than at any time since the 1962 Cuban missile crisis.

He made his remarks during an interview with Mr Dan Rather on CBS news last night.

His comments underscore the growing concern being expressed by the Administration, not only about the Cuban arms build-up but also over the flow of weapons from Cuba to Nicaragua and to leftist groups elsewhere in Central America. However, some observers think the United States is planning to use Cuba for exerting pressure on the Soviet Union over Poland.

He refused to say what steps his Administration might be thinking of taking against Cuba. "I rule nothing out, nothing in," he declared. "I would think that Cuba, if it was smart, would take another look and see if it didn't want to rejoin the Western hemisphere."

Accusing Cuba of being "a stooge for the Soviet Union" Mr Reagan said that Mr Haig had raised the question of Soviet arms shipments to Cuba when he met Mr Andrei Gromyko this week.

## Mitterrand combats split on Siberian gas deal

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan 28

The contract for the rebuying of 1385 of Siberian gas deliveries to France continues to divide not only the Government majority also the opposition.

Once again, to restore some harmony to the discordant chorus of his own supporters, President Mitterrand had to step in yesterday and reply to those, such as M Edmond Maire Secretary General of the CPDT labour organization, who had accused the Government of sacrificing the Poles to a Socialist conception of real-politik.

M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, this evening attempted in the national assembly on the debate, to substitute more telling arguments for his lame explanation earlier this week that "it would serve no purpose to add to the Polish tragedy the additional tragedy, for Frenchmen, of not being supplied with gas."

M Mauroy said that "to refuse to sign the gas contract would have meant giving up the objectives of the Government's energy plan. It would have meant embarking on the logic of an economic blockade of a state of war."

The Government has received qualified support from an unexpected quarter. M Raymond Barre, under whose prime ministership the negotiation on Siberian gas began, declared yesterday that he approved the signature of the contract, although he had some reservations about its timing. "I reflect the amalgam of politics and economics in which

some people indulge", he said.

In reactions to the Polish crisis, hypocrisy had got the upper hand. "It is false to assert that our independence will be prejudiced (by the deal). The only other countries in the world able to provide us with gas are Algeria and Nigeria, high risk countries."

He and Mr Honecker said in a joint statement that they considered substantial progress in American-Soviet arms talks in Geneva was both necessary and possible. Detente must be preserved and the arms race prevented.

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A large proportion — 66 per cent — opposed stopping the grain gas-pipeline deal with the Soviet Union.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Jail plea in baby case

Munich. — The prosecutor has demanded a three-year sentence for a Munich doctor accused of the manslaughter of a newborn child. He also said that Dr Willi Appel, aged 47, a gynaecologist, should be barred from practising for life.

Herr Jürgen Hanreich was winding up the prosecution case on the fourth day of a trial which arose from the death of a baby girl after a Caesarean section performed by Dr Appel last April. Dr Appel admitted in court that he gave a lethal injection to the child. The baby had abnormally long limbs and a massively deformed head, he said. The verdict is expected today.

UN agrees to debate Golan

New York. — The United Nations Security Council voted to convene an emergency special session of the General Assembly to debate the annexation of the Golan Heights.

WHO ends link over S Africa

Geneva. — In a move without precedent, the World Health Organization has broken ties with the largest international medical association to penalize it for admitting South African doctors.

Garland greeting: Lord Carrington welcomed by Mr Mochtar Kusumaditmadja, Indonesia's Foreign Minister, at Jakarta airport at the start of a three-day visit.

Black bag admitted as coma trial evidence

From Our Correspondent, Newport, Rhode Island, Jan 28

A black wash bag and a hypodermic syringe with a residue of insulin are to be admitted as evidence in the trial of Mr Claus von Bulow, who is accused of trying to kill his wife.

Mr von Bulow, a Danish-born former London barrister, is charged with trying to kill his wife, Martha "Sunny" von Bulow, an heiress, with insulin injections in December, 1979, and December, 1980. She has been in an irreversible insulin coma for 14 months.

The defence contended that the bag and needle, discovered in a locked cupboard in Mr von Bulow's study by his stepson, Prince Alex von Auersperg, were obtained illegally without a search warrant.

Judge Thomas Needham ruled yesterday that the constitutional safeguards against an illegal search did not apply since the needle was taken in a private search.

The jury this morning toured the English Georgian mansion, Clarendon Court, where Mrs von Bulow was found lying on the white marble floor of her bathroom on December 21, 1980.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Acquittals over camp site blast

Madrid, — A court in Tarragona acquitted four of the six men accused in connexion with the 1978 Los Alfaques camp site explosion in which 215 people were killed. Two others were given suspended sentences of one year each (Harry Debelius writes).

The court also ruled that the two convicted men, Alfredo Ortiz, manager of the plant where the tanker lorry, which later exploded at the camp site, was loaded beyond its capacity with propylene gas, and Francisco Molino, the plant's chief safety officer, must pay damages of £78,000. The court had found the two men guilty of reckless negligence.

The sentences were lighter than those demanded by the state prosecutor who had asked the court to jail all six defendants for periods from one to six years. Investigations showed that the tanker lorry had no safety valve and that little attention was paid normally to the load capacity of vehicles at the Tarragona Petrochemical Plant.

Driver blamed for crash

Delhi.—The driver's error of judgment and the flouting of safety regulations were the main causes of the rail accident in Agra, northern India, in which 43 were injured, Mr P. C. Sethi, the federal Railway Minister, said here.

Mr Sethi told a press conference there was evidence that the 54-year-old driver had disregarded signal regulations.

Reprieve on eve of execution

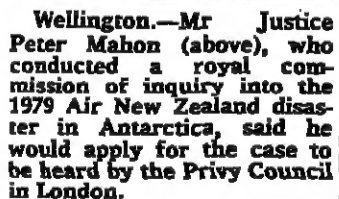
Monrovia.—Mr Samuel Doe, the Liberian head of state, has reprieved six student leaders on the eve of their execution by firing squad for high treason. He said they were free to go home and return to school.

The six had been sentenced for breaching a ban on political activities and Mr Doe said they must accept this as a last warning. "We cannot ignore the gallant role students played in our revolution."

Judge puts case to Privy Council

Wellington.—Mr Justice Peter Mahon (above), who conducted a royal commission of inquiry into the 1979 Air New Zealand disaster in Antarctica, said he would apply for the case to be heard by the Privy Council in London.

His report blamed the airline for an administrative error. The announcement came two days after the New Zealand Government accepted his resignation from the High Court and agreed to pay costs if the judge wanted to pursue the issue further.



Wellington.—Mr Justice Peter Mahon (above), who conducted a royal commission of inquiry into the 1979 Air New Zealand disaster in Antarctica, said he would apply for the case to be heard by the Privy Council in London.

His report blamed the airline for an administrative error. The announcement came two days after the New Zealand Government accepted his resignation from the High Court and agreed to pay costs if the judge wanted to pursue the issue further.

This year in Jerusalem

Strasbourg.—The political commission of the 21-nation Council of Europe upheld by 21 votes to eight a decision to hold its next meeting in Jerusalem on May 17, despite protests from Arab governments.

The objections arose after Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights. Israel holds observer status in the European Assembly and the commission meets annually in one of the member states.

Ghana order to 'party thugs'

Accra.—Ghana's military rulers have ordered all members of the country's former secret service and military intelligence and "all thugs and activists" of deposed President Hilla Limann's banned People's National Party to report to the authorities. Failure to do so would amount to "a declaration of war on the revolution."

Meanwhile, at hearings taking evidence of corruption, Mr Nana Okutwre Bekoe the former party chairman, described President Limann as unable to control his ministers, who were allowed to do "whatever they wanted."

Power cut off

Bucharest.—Electricity power cuts in Bucharest have begun in an attempt to conserve energy. Power was cut for four hours in various sections of the capital on a rotating basis.

Haig's envoy to help revive stalled dialogue

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv, Jan 28

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, indicated today that the Reagan Administration will soon be appointing its first special negotiator to handle continuing efforts to reach agreement between Israel and Egypt on the vexed issue of Palestinian autonomy.

Speaking at Tel Aviv airport after his second visit to Israel within two weeks, Mr Haig dropped a broad hint that the man to be put in charge of one of the most intricate diplomatic problems in the Middle East will be Mr Richard Fairbanks.

Questioned directly about the appointment, Mr Haig said: "It is true that Mr Fairbanks has accompanied me on the trip, and I would suggest that would indicate that his appointment to assist in the autonomy effort is under serious consideration, but there has been no decision as of this moment. I would anticipate one in the very near future."

In diplomatic circles, the decision is seen as a clear sign that the American Government regards the process leading to a possible autonomy agreement as being long and drawn out. It is also taken as evidence that Mr Haig is distancing himself from the negotiations again after his close personal involvement over the past fortnight.

Mr Fairbanks is not a well-known political name outside Washington, where he has a reputation as a loyal follower of Mr Haig. Presently he is serving as a special assistant to the Secretary of State.

The sudden change of approach reflects growing concern in the State Department about the future of the whole Camp David process after April 26, the day when

Israel must hand back the remainder of Sinai to Egypt. The announcement of Mr Fairbanks's imminent appointment came at the end of a 24-hour visit to Israel during which the American delegation made little progress on the key issues which still divide the Israeli and Egyptian approaches to Palestinian self-rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Despite some public claims of optimism by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's Foreign Minister, Mr Haig made no attempt to disguise the seriousness of the problems still unresolved after two and a half years' of talking. He also confirmed speculation that the delegations are now only aiming for a declaration of principles rather than a detailed autonomy agreement which, it is now stated, would follow later.

Canadian Indians lose plea

By Our Foreign Staff

The British Government was not bound by treaties signed with Canadian Indians in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the Court of Appeal in London ruled yesterday.

The Indian Association of Alberta had contested a ruling that obligations to them under the treaties and a Royal Proclamation of 1763 now rested with the Ottawa Government.

Lord Denning, the Master of the Rolls, said that promises given to the Indians over their land rights and other freedoms must be honoured "so long as the sun rises and the river flows", but the obligations of the Crown in Canada rested with the Government there, not in the United Kingdom.

The Canada Bill, which would patriate constitution-making powers to Canada, did everything possible to protect the rights and freedoms of the aboriginal peoples. There was nothing to warrant distrust by the Indians of the Government of Canada.

Their rights and freedoms had been guaranteed to them by the Crown in Parliament, they should now be honoured by the Crown in Canada. It was not possible for the Indian people to bring an action in this country to enforce those obligations; they must be pursued in Canada.

The British Government agreed to delay the second reading of the Canada Bill while the appeal was heard. The ruling means it can now go ahead though it will face determined opposition in Parliament from supporters of the Canadian Indians.

Mr Willie Littlechild, legal adviser in Canada to the Indian association, said an appeal to the House of Lords was among options being considered.

Law Report, page 14

PAKISTANIS HOPEFUL ON TREATY

From Our Correspondent Islamabad, Jan 28

India and Pakistan hold their most important talks since the Simla agreement 10 years ago tomorrow and on Saturday, with initial discussions on a non-aggression treaty proposed by Islamabad.

Mr Agha Shahi, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, who leads his delegation to the talks in Delhi with Mr Narasimha Rao, India's Foreign Minister, said here today: "No one should underestimate the difficulties that lie in the way of reaching an agreement of such fundamental character, given the controversy that has surrounded the idea in the past."

But despite, "continuing scepticism in some circles in India about our motives and intentions," he emphasized that the talks could be the start of "a whole new ball game transforming political security and the strategic situation in the region."



Mikhail Suslov, the Soviet ideologist who died on Monday, lying in state in Moscow. Mr Brezhnev and other leaders paid their last respects yesterday.

Gun battle grounds hijackers

Cali, Colombia, Jan 28.—Colombian leftist guerrillas holding 66 people on board a hijacked airliner have offered to exchange their hostages for a new aircraft to fly them to Central America, military sources said today.

The Boeing 727 of the Colombian Aerial airline which they seized yesterday during a short domestic flight was damaged by gunfire last night when troops tried to storm it. The guerrillas, six men and a woman, freed 62 of their 128 hostages last night, a presidency spokesman said today.

Earlier reports said 86 had been freed after the aircraft landed in this south-west Colombian city. The Government has rejected a demand for a new, fully-fuelled aircraft and mediator by Mgr Juan Francisco Sarasty, Archbishop of Cali, and two local journalists.

The hijackers' leader, who calls himself Commander Three, told the local military commander they would release all the hostages in exchange for an aircraft to

fly to an unspecified Central American country.

(A separate report said all but two of the hostages would be released. They would accompany the hijackers on a small private jet out of the country.)

Military sources quoted the captain as saying the hijackers leader had again threatened to blow up the aircraft when his demands for a new aircraft were rejected. The M19 guerrillas, armed with grenades and automatic weapons, hijacked the aircraft during a 20-minute flight from Bogota to the central city of Pereira.

After forcing the pilot to return to Bogota they threatened to blow up the aircraft if a government commissioner was not brought to the airport. They then ordered the pilot to fly the 300 miles to Cali after asking for a flight chart covering Central America.

As the aircraft appeared to be preparing to take off from Cali, troops rushed towards it, shredding the tyres with

bullets and puncturing the fuel tank.

Other reports say the aircraft collided with an Army lorry driven into its path as it moved along the runway to take off. The driver of an airport bus that picked up the freed passengers claimed he heard shouts and explosions on board the aircraft.

The M-19 guerrilla group seized the Dominican Embassy in Bogota in February, 1980, and held several ambassadors and diplomats for two months. In December, 1980, the guerrillas hijacked a Boeing 727 belonging to Colombia's Avianca airline and were subsequently granted political exile in Cuba.—Reuters.

□ The M-19 or April 19 movement takes its name from the date that the late Gustavo Rojas, a dictator who ruled Colombia from 1953 to 1957, lost a presidential election in 1970. (AP reports). His followers, claiming he was cheated of victory through electoral fraud,

Operation Condor reaches for the sky

From Ivor Davis Ventura, California, Jan 28

One of the biggest and most expensive gambles in the history of America's endangered species programme has begun with an attempt to save the giant California condor from extinction.

A team of wildlife specialists will lead into the foothills of this coastal town and set up elaborate traps to capture the ungainly condors in the first programme of its kind ever attempted.

There are now only between 20 and 30 condors, the largest North American land birds left. Scientists at the Condor Research Centre in Ventura feel the \$1m (£520,000) survival programme offers the only hope of saving the birds.

However, Operation Condor does not have the blessings of all environmentalists. Critics say that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Audubon Society are going about the task in the wrong way by using high technology when simpler, less risky methods could save the condors.

The plan is to trap young birds for breeding and to take two of them and fit them with solar powered radio transmitters, the size of a man's pocket watch on their wings.

The trappers plan to spread a 50ft nylon net on the ground, camouflage it with leaves and place a carcass in the middle as bait. Lead weights attached to the net by cord will then be packed into miniature cannons. When fired the cannons will throw the weights and the net in an arc over a condor that has settled on the bait.

Besides breeding the birds in captivity, wildlife experts, thanks to the radio transmitters, hope to be able to tell scientists where the birds range.

Namibian talks make good progress

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Jan 28

Marked progress has been made recently in the talks on the independence of Namibia between the five-nation Western contact group and the various African parties concerned, according to American officials.

However, the front-line African states and the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) still have reservations about constitutional aspects of the Namibian independence plan.

Despite these which centre on the proposed voting arrangements for a constituent assembly in the disputed territory, American officials appear confident that full agreement will soon be reached on the first phase of the Western settlement plan. This phase deals with constitutional principles, including voting arrangements and a bill of rights.

Only when full agreement has been reached on phase one will the negotiating group—Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada—present their proposals for the second phase.

South Africa and the internally-based political organization, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance contend that the United Nations is biased in favour of SWAPO. Mr R F Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, recently criticized Senator Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, for his "inability to act in a just and unbiased manner."

Despite this broadside and the failure to reach final agreement on the first phase, American officials appear more optimistic about an internationally-recognized settlement than have been since the Reagan Administration came to power.

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# EEC price policy leaves milk issue unresolved

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 28

The European Commission has still to announce or even to work out many of the important details in its food price proposals for 1982-83.

Although increases averaging 9 per cent for most farm products were announced yesterday, it is still far from clear what is being done to curb surplus production in the milk sector, or how to bring cereal prices more in line with world competitors.

From a British point of view the proposals seem a considerable step back on what was on offer during the discussions to reform the common agricultural policy, which collapsed at the start of the week.

The 9 per cent increase is above the "prudent" level that Britain had sought in order to restrain the cost of the agricultural policy. The unchanged 2.5 per cent levy for milk is obviously not going to prove a disincentive to dairy farmers. The 5.3 per cent increase in flour means that European prices are almost certain to remain significantly above American prices.

The commission does propose measures to control surpluses in the dairy and cereal sectors. These involve the creation of thresholds for these products, with penalty clauses to be applied next

product	proposed % increase	proposed price per 100 kg in ECU
Common Wheat	6.58	146.28
Breaded Wheat	5.3	121.74
Sugarbeet	9.0	23.20
Milk	9.0	156.70
Butter	9.0	2,046.38
Beef	6+3.0	1,110.97
(from Dec) (1,142.44)		
Pork	9.0	1,138.15
Sheepmeat	9.0	2,395.94
Olive Oil	9.0	1,762.14
Sunflower Seed	12.0	316.96
Dried Fodder	12.0	95.29
Table Wine (Top grade)	9.0	45.20
Fruit and Veg	10.0	various
Silkworms	10.0	55.42

Calculated according to the proposed new green rate of 0.59p per European Currency Unit.

year if the thresholds are passed.

Control of cereal production is more specifically spelled out. Next year's prices would drop by 1 per cent for every million tonnes more than 119.5 million tonnes produced this year.

In the more sensitive dairy sector, however, proposed controls are vague and contradictory. Special aid of about \$62m is suggested for small procedures, although

the Commission has no clear proposal as to how to define a small producer.

Three different ideas for penalizing overproduction are suggested, all of them controversial, while the thresholds for production is set at 0.5 per cent above this year's total — which is already about 20 per cent higher than the Community consumes.

In fairness to the Commission, it must be said that it found itself caught between the irresistible force of the strong farming lobbies in France, Italy and Ireland, and the immovable object of Britain's refusal to countenance higher spending on agriculture.

The proposed increase of 9 per cent would, according to farming organizations, fail to keep income up to the level of inflation, and after a three-year period when farm price increases have been held to a minimum the Community.

The price proposals, the Commission estimates, would put up the cost of food by 2.9 per cent, which means an extra 0.6 per cent on the cost of living.

Britain is determined to oppose so large an increase, while France will be leading the claim by most of the other members for a substantially better offer.

## 100 days of Papandreou



Mr Papandreou: Change of the style but few results.

## Greeks grow impatient for imaginative change

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Jan 28

In their first 100 days in power, the Greek Socialists have managed to ally few fears and to fulfil even fewer of the hopes their election victory had evoked. For all the spectacular change in style and faces, their overall performance showed that they were unprepared for the job, or had grossly underestimated the problems.

Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, was evidently sensing this when he told journalists this week how touched he was by the readiness of the people to grant his Government a credit of time.

"After all, you must understand that for the first time young people with a creative passion and absolute dedication to the party's targets that the Greek people endorsed here, undertaken a very difficult task."

What seems to be making this task more difficult is a thorough change of personnel throughout the state machine. Spoils system or not, the purge betrays an almost irrational fear of sabotage from within and constitutes a terrible waste of talent and experience.

The Government's handling of foreign affairs, however, won it almost universal approval by touching on the hypersensitive chord of national pride. At the same time it put the message across, particularly to the West, to stop taking the Greeks for granted.

Beyond establishing a handy reputation for unpredictability abroad, the Government is tightening its hold at home by a combination of carrot and stick.

The fundamental question for Greece today is whether Mr Papandreou is treading

softly because, after assuming power, he came face to face with some of the harsher realities of life, or if this is a ruse to keep the unquenched power centres and the bourgeoisie happy until the Government asserts its ability to enforce its more revolutionary pledges.

There are two reasons for this soft approach. One is Greece's continuing dependence on the United States for arms to ward off the imminent threat of aggression from Turkey.

The second is that this year Mr Papandreou needs about £1,000m from Western banks to close the balance of payments gap. These banks tend to be allergic to the type of pristine socialism that the original party platform preached.

Mr Papandreou singled out 1982 as a year of serious difficulties and his second in command in the Government, Mr Apostolos Lazaris, the Minister of Coordination, recently put it this way: "The march to Socialism is like climbing a mountain peak. Never lose sight of the goal, but watch every step."

But the Greeks are an impatient lot and the first voices of disenchantment are audible. Critics claim that the imaginative and efficient impact of the first few weeks (which produced such welcome measures as the attempt to wipe out divisions from the civil war and the lowering of the voting age to 18) seems to be running out of steam.

More and more, they complain, the ministers seem to be drifting back to the old ruts of time-tested remedies that they themselves deplored while in opposition.

## Portuguese Socialists back Eanes

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon, Jan 28

Portuguese democracy and the Pingo Balsemão government will have to continue to live with the semi-presidential system, the constitutional "balancing act" which emerged after the 1974 revolution.

The Socialists have decided not to back the government's proposal, thus saving President Antonio Eanes from the need to carry out his threat to resign if he is stripped of most of his powers under a reform of the constitution this spring. The Socialists' votes are essential for the two-thirds majority required for constitutional reforms.

Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist leader, told *The Times* today after a week-long heated debate inside his party: "We are partisans of a semi-presidential system. The article in the 1976 constitution should stay as it is and we in the Socialist Party have accepted that position."

He was referring to the article permitting Portugal's directly elected President the power to dismiss the Prime Minister, though he is the chief executive — a power exercised by President Eanes against Dr Soares personally four years ago.

"President Eanes had that power, it was not an illegitimate act, but a political error in my view," Dr Soares observed.

The Socialists' decision means that the goal of an Italian-style system of direct election of the President, set by Dr Francisco Sá Carneiro, the charismatic Socialist Democratic Prime Minister, who campaigned for it until his death in an aircraft crash during the 1980 presidential election, cannot be achieved.

Dr Soares in his interview made clear, however, that the Socialists would vote with the governing Democratic Alliance this spring to abolish the Council of Ministers. Revolution, the armed Services "watchdog". Originally set up to protect the 1976 constitution and accountable to no one.

The Socialists will also vote for the reform to ensure that the President nominates as chairmen of the joint chiefs of staff whoever the government recommends. That was a second important objective set by Dr Sá Carneiro, to establish the principle of the subordination of Portugal's armed forces to the civilian government in line with other Western democracies.

The Socialists' overriding consideration about the reforms evidently arises from fears that a head-on clash with the President risked destabilizing Portugal's still young democracy.

## Outlawing guns is a shot in the dark

From Christopher Thomas, Morton Grove, Illinois, Jan 28

The village of Morton Grove is a model of peace and stability a few miles from Chicago, a haven from one of the most violent cities in the world. It is expensive, beautiful and notorious.

For the six village trustees have done the unthinkable: they have voted to make it illegal for any of the 24,000 citizens to possess a handgun.

To everybody's astonishment, the immediate legal battle mounted by the powerful and persuasive pro-gun lobby in the United States resulted in a decisive victory for Morton Grove's unprecedented stand.

The question that hardly anybody used to ask is now widely discussed: Does the Second Amendment really give an absolute right to bear arms?

It all started a year ago when a local businessman decided to open a gun store in Morton Grove. He had a partner who, police discovered, had a criminal past. The police chief, Mr Larry Sheehy, recommended to the trustees that planning permission be refused.

They agreed, but in the months that followed they discussed the prospects of a complete gun ban. After some heated argument they voted four to two in favour of banning not only the sale and purchase of hand guns, but also their possessions. They set the maximum penalties for infringement at six months' jail plus a \$500 (£240) fine.

The National Rifle Association, which has two million fee-paying members and is by far the most influential pro-gun group in the country, swung into action, calling it the most dangerous attack ever staged against the right to keep and bear arms.

The NRA always cites the Second Amendment in justification of its case, but usually only selectively. The entire section reads: "a well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

The NRA asked an Illinois federal district judge to rule the Morton Grove decision unconstitutional. But Judge Bernard Becker took the view that the Second Amendment reserved the right to keep and bear arms only in the preservation of state militias.

By that decision the delightful village of Morton Grove achieved more than all the highly-financed and sophisticated gun control campaigns mounted at federal level. The pro-gun lobby was caught unaware because it never counted on a rearguard action from a handful of part-time trustees in a gentle, middle-class village in Illinois.

Mr Donald Snider, one of the village trustees who teaches in a school for mentally handicapped children in Chicago, is the chief champion of the Morton Grove gun ban. It is due to come into effect on Monday, but the NRA is confident of succeeding in last-minute legal attempts to force a delay.

Mr Snider fully expects the legal battle to wind slowly all the way to the Supreme Court, which will cost tens of thousands of dollars. But, so far, money has not been a problem.

The ABC broadcasting network has already paid \$17,000 to the village for the option of making a television film about the affair, plus another \$60,000 if it is actually made. All the gun control groups are planning extensive financial aid.

The Morton Grove trustees acknowledge that at the stage the gun ban is more symbolic than anything else. Mr Snider said: "We are not suddenly going to drag off hundreds of our citizens to jail because they own a handgun. But we have broken the spell. People are no longer so sure that gun bans are unconstitutional."

The breaking of the spell has already had an impact. Seven other communities near Chicago are considering a similar law, and the city itself looks like prohibiting the issue of all new handguns.

This week, western criticism of the Turkish military regime has reached the point where Turkey may be forced to leave the Council of Europe. Robin Laurance interviews Kenan Evren, who believes his regime has been misunderstood.

## Why democracy must wait



General Evren, true heir of Atatürk: "readoption of his principles will help social and economic principles".

Stubborn pride is central to the Turkish character, and no European leader more closely reflects the personality of his people than General Evren of Turkey. One man in particular is feeling the force of that truth today — former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit who is in prison for criticizing the general's regime.

Ecevit's imprisonment has met strong disapproval throughout Europe. Coupled with the General's closure of the country's political parties, it is likely to freeze support for Turkey from European institutions as well as from individual states. Turkey is even likely to be expelled from the Council of Europe unless it withdraws of its own accord.

But Evren and his colleagues are undaunted. They see it all as an interference in Turkey's internal affairs that they bitterly resent. Evren is not only a man of stubborn pride. He is a Muslim who sees his life in the spirit of Atatürk, the founder of the modern secular Turkish state. His military coup 16 months ago rescued the country from daily terrorism and an economic shambles and was met with a national sigh of relief.

Today he is widely tipped to become the country's first president under a new constitution that is almost certain greatly to increase the president's power.

The General comes from a modest background. His father was an imam, a Muslim prayer leader, well-liked by the faithful who attended his small mosque in Aksehir, a market town 75 miles along the valley from the Aegean port of Izmir, or Smyrna as it was then.

The imam's son was a bright child, doing well at middle school and distinguishing himself by graduating to military high school. He then spent four years at the Ankara War College, gaining his commission as third lieutenant at the age of 20.

At first his modest nature — even diffident according to one contemporary — made him an unlikely candidate for the senior ranks. But after working with the Turkish contingent in Korea, he became Chief of Staff of the Land Forces commander. He became a general in 1964. During the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, 10 years later, he was Chief of Staff to the Land Forces commander. He then spent four years at the Ankara War College, gaining his commission as third lieutenant at the age of 20.

General Evren is a Muslim but not a devout one like his father. He pointedly breaks Ramadan, making public his support for Atatürk's secular ideals rather than for the dictates of Islam. He is married with three daughters. Slightly built, he has fast-fading white hair and steady dark brown eyes.

We talked in his office at General Staff Headquarters, a sombre grey stone block in the centre of Ankara. The most dominant feature is a portrait of Atatürk which hangs on the wall behind the General's chair. Atatürk, the centenary of whose birth Turkey celebrated last year, has been the great inspiration in Evren's life. "He is the distinguished son of mankind," explains General Evren. "A man for whom the hearts of the nation burn with love and deep gratitude."

But was the General convinced that the nation supported Atatürk's principles and the westernization that went with them and would not prefer some degree of Islamic influence restored?

"As Atatürk stated, we interpret westernization as 'setting our people on the road to becoming the most prosperous and civilized nation'. If that is the goal, the Muslim nature of the Turkish people is far from contrasting with westernization. In fact, the real nature of Islam is always open to science, civilization and development. This is understood by the majority of the Turkish people, 99 per cent of whom are Muslims."

It was in the name of Atatürk that the General

seized control of the country 16 months ago, and his achievements since then have been considerable. Terrorism has been dramatically reduced. Inflation has been cut by more than half, and foreign earnings have increased substantially (if not quite as much as official figures suggest).

"Gathering and uniting the Turkish nation on the principles of Atatürk," the General said, "is the only guarantee of our country's security. I am satisfied that there have been no major failures in the activities we have carried out in the last 16 months."

No failures perhaps, but had there been any disappointments? "Well, we do find it difficult to comprehend the approach of some foreigners who seem either to be making no effort to understand us, or to have some ulterior motive in mind. Let me give you an example. Extremists who fled Turkey after the September 12 operation are able to live openly abroad. They run fallacious propaganda campaigns against Turkey which deceive even parliamentarians and which friendly governments do little to counter."

The General was furious when the Bonn Parliament's aid committee froze £100m worth of aid because the return to democracy in Turkey was not coming quickly enough. He was just as infuriated — if not altogether surprised — when his ambassador in London relayed the British Government's warning, in its role as current president of the EEC Council of Ministers, that the aid sentence imposed on Bulent Ecevit, who had violated a military decree banning former politicians from making public statements, could prevent approval for the next instalment of Community aid.

"Sometimes," General Evren said, "we do not know whose side our friends are on. I have been continuously expressing that Turkey will definitely return to a parliamentary democracy. This will be established not because

our Western friends are asking for it but because it is considered the most suitable political system for the Turkish nation."

It was the "outside influence" that was much to blame for the state Turkey took over. He admitted there were economic, social, psychological and administrative problems that had led to the unrest. "But these problems," he said, "were consciously exploited by mostly externally supported forces aiming to destroy the Turkish state."

A huge arsenal of arms and ammunition had been seized during the martial law period. There were tens of thousands of rifles, pistols, machine guns, grenades, anti-aircraft guns, rocket launchers and mortars, valued in all at about £120m. "The money," said General Evren, "had to come from somewhere."

While Evren clearly likes to emphasize the external element in Turkey's terrorism, there is evidence to suggest that his purpose is to prepare basic laws for the construction of the new Turkish democracy. Its members were selected from all layers of society. It was created to adopt the Atatürk style of thought rather than to represent a spectrum of thoughts and views from the radical left to the radical right.

The generals have also made sure that the thoughts and views printed in the press are the ones they want to read. Papers have been shut down, journalists jailed, and others censored. A critical comment. A purge of the state radio and television service resulted in a number of staff being transferred to backwater civil service jobs that had nothing to do with broadcasting.

Was all this because the generals believed that a few press sometimes did more harm than good? "Limitations that martial law impose on individuals and institutions also involve the mass media," said General Evren. "It must be appreciated that dissemination of untruthful squabbles through the press will impede national unity during this difficult period."

Of all the steps taken by the generals, the one to attract the most criticism so far has been the closing of the political parties in October last year. Corruption had been rife in the last Parliament. Evren had accused MPs of inertia, silence, indifference and indulging in personal feuds. The politicizing was still going on. They were already trying to elect new members to the new Constituent Assembly.

"We had to make sure," the General said, "that our return to democracy was not hampered by the self-serving bickering and deal-making of the old parties."

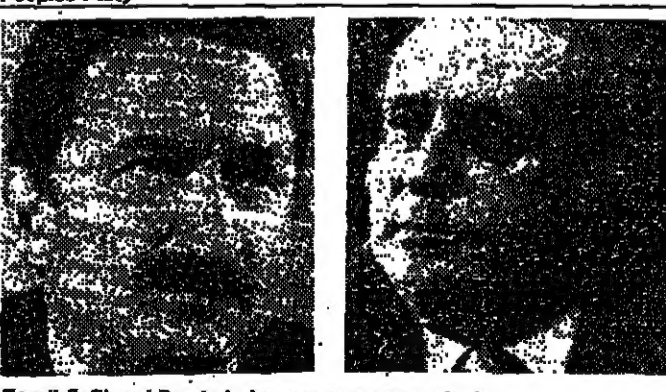
Looking to the future, he sees Turkey adopting a less insular stance, guided, inevitably enough, by the spirit of the man that has held Turkey together for so long. "Nations are gradually becoming more and more on each other, and are becoming complementary regarding economic, financial and trade cooperation. We will need to evaluate the economic and social developments in Turkey in the light of world economic conditions."

"Our basic purpose is to secure peace in Turkey and peace in the world. Readoption of Atatürk's principles, and their application, will undoubtedly greatly help our social and economic progress."

Even, the soldier, knows he is right. Soldiers usually do. Evren, the Turk, is proud and his pride too, like that of the nation, is easily hurt. He is no longer diffident as a colleague had once described him. There has even a hint of vanity — pleasure in the enthusiastic welcomes he still gets as he tours the country. And there is in him, as there is in Turkey, an identity crisis. No one doubts for a moment that he is his own man. But there is Evren the fledgling statesman, once giving considered orders, now taking consensus views.

## Turkey's road to military dictatorship

- 1923 Turkey becomes a republic: Atatürk elected president
- 1924 Caliphate abolished
- 1939 Second World War — Turkey remains neutral
- 1950 First multi-party Assembly convenes
- 1952 Turkey and Greece become full members of NATO
- 1960 Military coup — Prime Minister Menderes arrested
- 1961 Menderes executed
- 1966 Bulent Ecevit becomes secretary-general of Republican Peoples Party



Ecevit (left) and Demirel: democracy came unstuck

- 1971 Military forces Demirel government to resign
- 1973 Martial law ends after 29 months
- 1974 Ecevit government gives green light for Cyprus invasion



1977 37 die in May Day rioting (above)

1978 Kenan Evren becomes Chief of Staff

1980 More than 2,000 die in terrorist incidents. General Evren leads military coup

1981 Order restored. Civil rights curtailed. Political parties abolished. Former Premier Bulent Ecevit jailed

## PROTEST AT BORDER CAMP ENDS

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn, Jan 28

About 35 anti-nuclear demonstrators who camped out on land on the East-West German border, defying orders from both sides to leave, gave up today.

They had set up a makeshift camp on a 25-yard wide strip of land at Gorleben, 60 miles south of Hamburg, which is legally East German, but lies west of the border fortifications. West German border guards were legally unable to enter and East German guards, who brought about 50 men to the scene, were evidently reluctant to round them up.

A 36-year-old East German was seriously injured by self-firing devices as he fled to freedom across the fortifications to near Bad Bramstedt to the north.

## Cyprus may soon turn to UN

From Our Own Correspondent, Athens, Jan 28

If the intercommunal negotiations in Cyprus fail to produce results by the end of March, the Cypriot Government will ask the United Nations to take more definitive steps to settle the problem that has kept the northern part of the island under Turkish military occupation since 1974.

This was one of the main conclusions in the comprehensive talks between President Kyriakos Kyprianou of Cyprus and Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, in Athens over the last three days. Mr Kyprianou flew back home today.

Mr Nicos Rolandis, the Cypriot Foreign Minister, who was here for talks, significantly went to New York for consultations on suitable dates for reconvening the United Nations General Assembly to take up the Cyprus question.

Papandreou says they are convinced that the present talks between Greek and Turkish Cypriots will be inconclusive, and even that the entire concept of the intercommunal dialogue since 1975 has proved ineffective. They agreed, however, to "exhaust all reasonable margins" before declaring it dead.

One option discussed in Athens was reactivating the mediation procedure recommended in the past by the General Assembly. Under this the President of the Assembly would appoint a committee of four representatives from non-aligned countries to assist the Secretary-General with the problem.

It is suggested that Cyprus could apply to the Security Council to determine the terms of reference for this procedure. Other options such as an international

conference (proposed by the Soviet Union) or sanctions to force Turkey to withdraw its troops are discarded as unrealistic.

A further possibility is that the new Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez Cuellar, who, as a former United Nations special representative in Cyprus himself, has a personal interest in the issue, plans to bring President Kyprianou and Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, together in Rome in April to try again under his guidance.

Mr Papandreou announced that his Socialist Government was launching a worldwide diplomatic campaign for Cyprus, and explained that Greece had added responsibilities because Cyprus was "part of the Hellenic nation", as well as because Greece was a guarantor power (along with Britain and Turkey).



THE ARTS

Television

Fence and offence

The cost of keeping one child behind the 18ft wire fence at Glenhorne Youth Treatment Centre in Birmingham is £32,000 a year and, with the best will in the world, it was hard to see, from Peter Gordon's film for Forty Minutes (BBC2), how on earth it had been set up in the first place, or was likely to have much future in the age of the short sharp shock.

Glenhorne is not (what-ever *Radio Times* says) a prison, since it operates outside the penal system and takes both those under the age of 18 who have proved utterly impossible to control elsewhere and child criminals convicted of arson, murder, robbery and rape. The methods of selection were admitted as quite arbitrary since Glenhorne employs no staff to check inmates and could never take more than 10 children at one time — but he aims at least to clear.

They are reform and rehabilitation by close personal contact and a delicate system of "contracts", penalties and rewards. Those living within the security unit are locked in their rooms at night, those outside it are helped to find work while continuing to live at the centre. Is it working? After less than four years it was too soon to say. Much kindness and pragmatic intelligence was seen in action, but the fight at the disco dance must have alarmed everyone, and the tones of professional frustration raised their weary head, despite the presence of the cameras, at least once.

Wildlife on One (BBC1) offered bebobs, always good value, here first seen tweaking the windscreen wipers of those who ignored the rules of the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve and mad-dened them with junk food. Baboons with the nerve actually to attack humans are of course short without question and the colony has now shrunk from 60 to seven. Meanwhile, back in the maquis above the blue sea down the coast (how glorious it looks), Glenda, Carter, Harriet and Sam continued to live off acacia pods, lily corns and ice plants, as they have always done.

Glenda sustained her position as first lady despite an admired pregnancy by Harriet, and Sam fought off a sneaky challenge from Carter and a more substantial one from Nick. Not even the blandness of a mid-evening script ("Thirst quenched, high noon brings a time of time", etc.) could dim the energy of the subject, of the ancient Egyptian beauty of a baboon sitting bolt upright and absolutely still on the skyline looking down its long, dark nose.

Michael Ratcliffe

Tasmanian magic and mystery

Manganinnie (U)/A  
Personal History of  
the Australian Surf (A)

Paris Pullman

Ghost Story (AA)

Ritz

It Hurts Only When  
I Laugh (AA)

Columbia

Ticket to Heaven (AA)

Classic, Haymarket;  
Odeon, Kensington

Until now, Tasmania's chief gift to the cinema was Errol Flynn. But with *Manganinnie*, part of an Australian double bill at the Paris Pullman cinema — the situation has changed. At least three key personnel — the director (John Honey), composer (Peter Sculthorpe) and author of the original novel (Beth Roberts) — are all Tasmanian-born. The extraordinary landscapes which dominate the film are also the genuine article: dense woods and fierce crags, thunderous waterfalls and majestic coastlines.

Australian films of the past ten years have set great store by visual precision, often to the detriment of their narratives. But the Tasmanian landscape is inseparable from the story *Manganinnie* tells: the adventures of a young child of white settlers, Joanna, who drifts from the loving care of an Aboriginal woman, lone survivor of a tribe massacred by soldiers. The Aboriginal, Manganinnie, formerly searches for signs of her people. Joanna accompanies, learns tribal customs and "the secret of things that burn", and is finally returned to hearth and home — her eyes opened to an alien but magical lifestyle.

The great strength of *Manganinnie* lies in its refusal to fitter away the magic and mystery. Joanna discovers, John Honey (a director with much television experience) rarely succumbs to luscious, snapshot imagery, preferring to train his camera on the strange couple of Aboriginal foster mother and white child, clambering over the terrain. Dialogue is at a minimum, but this only enhances the eloquence of the lead performances. Young Anna Ralph, for instance, never acts as such; she only acts her age — a child of seven, pottering about a brave new world, the emotions of fear and delight flashing across her face. There is a similar natural dignity about the Manganinnie of Mawnyal Yathalawry (a pre-school teacher at Darwin's Aboriginal reserve), who rears her charge with tribal language, song and laughter, quick gestures and darting eyes.

To be sure, this entrancing film has faults. The periodic narration by a grown-up Joanna fits uneasily into the structure. More details would be welcome about the means of survival in the bush (there are a dog and a pet wombat to feed, apart



Growing up in Australia: the young Michael Blakemore and friend in "A Personal History" (top); and Joanna in "Manganinnie" chances upon an aboriginal skull.

from two humans). But faults pale beside the achievement of *Manganinnie*: a moving story of trust and love between two people of different civilizations; a first film of modest ambition, completely and confidently fulfilled.

The supporting film is another first venture, *A Personal History of the Australian Surf*, written and directed by the theatre director Michael Blakemore, long resident in England. By all the rules this should have been a narcissistic disaster, a home movie spun out of control, not content with guiding us through his upbringing in person, Blakemore also plays his own father, admonishing and advising his younger self in tiny re-enacted scenes. But the end result defies expectations. It is wonderfully terse and witty, bouncing with ironic reflections on

adolescent dreams and the country that nurtured and hindered them. Blakemore's father tried to make young Michael in his own image — a respected physician, a golf club member, Blakemore's schools tried to make him a super-athlete. Blakemore himself was interested in magic shows, the movies, frivolous entertainments that did not build muscles. Surfing proved to be the only common denominator — "a whole youth movement and transport system rolled into one", as a contemporary newsreel commented. Blakemore describes it. But even life on Bondi Beach fails to hold Blakemore to Australia; after spasmodically studying medicine at Sydney University he sails away and starts a new career at RADA. Blakemore's work at the National Theatre and elsewhere has included

Interview: Adam Pollock

Mozart's music in a bright new frame

Text Wednesday at the Old Vic, Musica nel Chiostro will present the theatrical challenge to beat all challenges: they will stage, for the first time in Britain, an opera with neither a beginning nor an end and with only a tantalizingly vague middle. All that remains of Mozart's abandoned singspiel *Zeide* is 15 exquisitely scored musical numbers: the spoken dialogue either is lost or never existed, and the connecting lot and denouement are anyone's guess. In this case, though, that anyone happens to be one of Italy's greatest living writers, Italo Calvino.

Previous realizations of the work have patched it up with dialogue based on the story of Mozart's later opera *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* to which *Zeide* has superficial resemblances, and filled it out with extraneous pieces of music. But this was not good enough for Adam Pollock, founder and designer of Musica nel Chiostro and guiding spirit behind *Zeide*. Convinced that the nature of the work was significantly different from *Die Entführung* and that the music must be staged in its own right, he left his way towards the idea of a narrator, and commissioned Italo Calvino to construct a story into which Mozart's music would convincingly fit.

The result is a new text, unfolded by a narrator, acted out by the singers, and arriving, by way of a good deal of witty comment on



Adam Pollock (left) and Italo Calvino: "I suppose it was an awful cheek, I just asked him to his face".

eighteenth-century opera itself, at four possible conclusions. It derives its energy from the constant fluctuation between involvement and distancing, that ambivalent relationship between presenter and public that characterizes so much of Calvino's writing. As in his latest novel, *If on a Winter's Night a Traveller*, we are offered alternative narrative threads: just as we become involved with a character in an aria, the prism turns and the narrator is offering another hypothesis, teasing our sensibilities, shifting the horizon. Colours, scenes and bright images pass as rapidly as in Marco Polo's travellers' tales in *Invisible Cities*, mirages of the Orient hover and fade.

"A new Mozart opera with a Calvino text — it's just like having God write something for you!" Adam Pollock can still hardly believe his luck. When he escaped to Italy from the claustrophobia of a successful interior and stage design career at the end of the Sixties, and acquired a ruined monastery in Tuscany, even the thoughts of forming an opera company were far away. But opera was

problem. He knows a lot about the eighteenth century and is a storyteller with a delicacy and wit that I thought would make something marvelous. I suppose it was an awful cheek, but I just asked him to his face. After a year of waiting, plying him with records, throwing out ideas, as if by a miracle it happened. Just as he was moving from Paris to Rome he turned up and said "Is this the sort of thing that would do?" We made a few modifications in the placing of the musical numbers, but the work is entirely his vision."

In Batignano, where the work was premiered last summer, the set was, doubly appropriately, a building in the places of reconstruction at Venice, where it plays in the Palazzo Grassi on February 20, 22, and 23, the stage is a platform such as is used at high tide. At the Old Vic, Pollock's setting is inspired by a Christie's auction he once went to there: the trunk, full of wigs and manuscripts, which opens the work, is the object of value.

But Musica nel Chiostro is, first and last, music in the cloister. Pollock wants nothing of the place where it all began. He plans to continue the seventeenth and eighteenth-century repertoire which so well suits the small space and forces at Batignano, but looks forward to more twentieth-century works as well. A double bill of Britten's *Rape of Lucretia* and Cavalli's *Mutio Scévola* is on the cards for next year, and Pollock would like to hire Stephen Oliver whose *The Garden* they performed in 1977 for another idea he has up his sleeve. "I find the beauty and the Beast tale a fascinating one... her house, and the Beast's palace as the same building seen in a slightly different way... The projected librettist remains anonymous, but Adam Pollock looks rather pleased with himself.

Hilary Finch

Cinema

some extremely nimble comedies (*The Front Page*, *Pravdas on Parade*, *Make and Break*), and he transfers all his fast footwork to the new medium of cinema. Commentary, newsreels, photographs, the past and present — all are dovetailed with impish speed. The re-enacted, often wordless, scenes are also cleverly judged, with wistful stares shuffling from his offspring. But the overall tone is dictated by the director's commentary: crisp, tongue-in-cheek, constantly savouring the absurdities of his past, like the magic show programme describing his own act as "a garland of wonders from the fingers of Mike". *A Personal History*, one might say, is a further garland.

Blakemore's film runs for 52 minutes; it takes almost as long for John Irving's Hollywood production *Ghost Story* to settle down and give its audience a story worth telling. Instead, we have a kaleidoscope of disturbing events, echoing the teasing mosaic of Irvin's television success *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*. Veteran actor Laurence Olivier, in the late Melvyn Douglas have nightmares in bed; there are sudden falls from tall buildings and bridges, shots of a rotting corpse. Had the script (from Peter Straub's novel) pursued a chronological line, the story's message would certainly be blunted, but Irvin is still treating his audience in a high-handed way. We need to be hooked, and there is not enough bait. Nevertheless, *Ghost Story* does have its pleasures. The story also includes Douglas Fairbanks Junior, beaming down from the big screen for the first time since *Mr Drake's Duck* in 1951; the photography of Jack Cardiff, another veteran — is atmospheric and chilly. The ghost is potent too; if only its story corresponded.

Neil Simon's *It Hurts Only When I Laugh* presents audiences with the reverse: a story told down by conventions. But at least the conventions are the author's own. This is a typical, average product of the Neil Simon factory, assembled from spare parts of a 1970 play, *The Gingerbread Lady*. The trademarks are clearly visible: wisecracks and tears, an over-optimistic running time (two hours); an autobiographical element, boosted by the presence of Simon's wife Marsha Mason. But fidelity to Neil Simon is no substitute for fidelity to life; even the film's theatrical milieu is implied (Mason plays an actress coming back to Broadway and her discarded daughter after a long session with the bottle). Luckily the lively performances provide some compensation.

*Ticket to Heaven* also benefits from its acting, especially the performance of Nick Mancuso, who bears the haunted look of early John Cassavetes. As the story proceeds, Mancuso grows more and more haunted, trapped in the Young Pioneers Community Centre — a bland title for a religious cult which enriches the coffers of a remote messiah and businessman. Given the cult, it was inevitable that a film would soon emerge dramatizing the fearful effects of indoctrination. At least this Canadian production, directed by R. L. Thomas, leaves scope for future film-makers: its narrative lurches about, and the phenomenon is explored with a heavy hand. The distributor, charmingly, is Miracle Films.

Geoff Brown

Concerts

ECO/Bedford

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Sir William Walton will be 80 a month today. No doubt we shall hear all his big works during this year, and Wednesday the English Chamber Orchestra paid homage to his chamber orchestral music, which does include one early masterpiece, the original *Facade* with two speakers occupied the second half, and it was prefaced by two other works which commemorate later landmarks in his career. Walton's film music deserves re-exploration this year, the wartime propaganda films and the pre-war revivals of *Escape Me Never* and *As You Like It*, both with lustrous Elisabeth Bergner, as well as the Shakespearean trilogy with Lord Olivier, here represented by two short extracts from *Henry V*.

The Sonata for string orchestra may not have much now to tell musical youngsters. It is full of reminiscences of good music that Walton had written before the war, and they sound more purposeful, I think more immediately personal, in the music's original shape as his *A Minor String*.

Souza/Bowman

Wigmore Hall

Less than half an hour before his recital was due to begin, Gérard Souza was still undecided whether or not to go on. His voice betrayed hardly a trace of any virus infection; but the nervous strain of such prolonged indecision showed through the first half, dulling the voice's lustre, sapping its movement. It emphasized, those qualities peculiar to Souza which can be distracting at the best of times: a sense of sucking the breath and the words through the teeth, a blurring of diction and intonation. Chausson came off best, with Souza capturing the transcendence of "Nos souvenirs" and filling out the sails of "Sérénade Italienne" with warmly sustained breath.

Audiences who come to hear older statesmen do so, of course, as much to seek interpretative wisdom, and are often more than willing to take the vocal reputation and intention for the deed. Their warm goodwill, to say nothing of Robin Bowman's discreetly supportive, infinitely imaginative accompaniments, had a telling effect after the interval.

Visibly happier and vocally liberated, Souza sprang into Chabrier's "L'Heureuse" with a seductive and supple energy. Focusing into a dense darkness what had been earlier only quavering shadows in his voice, his building and sustaining of an almost hypnotic tension in Debussy's "Recueillement" made good with his three Tchaikovsky songs, each one sung with absorbing conviction, the most memorable music of the evening.

Hilary Finch

Theatre

An unforgiving past

Summer

Cottesloe

In this quiet, uneventful piece, chronicling a holiday reunion in an East European seaside resort, Edward Bond sets out to examine the unforgiving hold of the past over the present and the atrocities that co-exist with ordinary human kindness. Xenia returns from England to the house where she grew up during the war, and which is now occupied by the family's former servant Marthe. The reunion is affectionate; and the only tension comes from their children, Ann and David, on whether to resume their affair of the previous year. This issue is swept aside by the news that Marthe is dying of cancer. And Bond first shows his claws in a magnificent speech in which David (a doctor) anatomizes the incurable nature of the disease in merciless technical detail with the double purpose of halting Xenia's meddling intrusions and reconciling his mother to her death.

The jaws of the past then begin to close with Marthe's recollections of the German occupation when she, together with a crowd of other women, was rounded up for execution, and escaped through Xenia's intervention.

But you would be wrong in supposing that this leaves her with any gratitude towards any member of the family that once "owned half the town." The family, she says, were sometimes hated: they were also loved and respected, which was worse. The scene then shifts to an outlying island where Xenia (whose father was destroyed by the Nazis) falls into frosty conversation with a German tourist: an amiable middle-aged man with big eyes for her lunch basket, who turns out to have been in the army of occupation. Their conversation, moreover, takes place in front of the execution rock.

If that sounds too neat to be true, Bond turns it to wonderful effect by allowing this polite refrigerator salesman, pitifully obsessed by the need to get back to the hotel by dinner time, to expand on the horrors of the past, attaining a level of nightmare poetry in the memory of floating execution victims, blocking the harbour and refusing to sink. Here, if anywhere, *Summer* imagines, very vividly, what Xenia's statement that "you can live without kindness, you can't live without justice."

With the return to the



Yvonne Bryceland: stoic dignity

house, this statement takes on another form in a nocturnal encounter between the former mistress and servant, reaching its climax when Marthe, acting on behalf of the women she left to die, spits in her rescuer's face. As staged in Bond's production, this moment misfires. You are more worried about Marthe's present health than the revenge of the dead; and it also exposes the way in which sympathies have been rigged.

Like Bond's fables, *Summer* is presented as a cool objective work, explaining the sad facts of the world as if to a group of children. I like that approach if it is honest, and Bond does play fair so far as Xenia is concerned. Anna Massey gives her a mosquito-like attack, every inch the haughty boutique proprietor, but there is no suggestion of her individual guilt.

But on Marthe he showers all the blessings he can devise: peasant origin, non-collaboration, and, above all, impending death from which she takes the authority to make self-righteously authoritative pronouncements on history, and freeze the company, when laying for breakfast, with lines like "Make the table beautiful. I won't see many more beautiful things." Yvonne Bryceland gives her stoic dignity, which is all you have a right to expect.

Hayden Griffins' hinged set locates the production in its proper zone, suspended between history and fable; and David Yelland and Eleanor David complete the play as blank-faced Bond innocents who may do better than their names. What shall most remember of *Summer* is David Ryall as the German, plaintively scanning the sea for his children and saying how terrible it would be to go home alone.

Irving Wardle

Shriek!

Churchill, Bromley

What I saw in Bromley on Wednesday was a preview of a thriller by Ian Blair. What anyone sees for the rest of the year at the Churchill Theatre is likely to be a preview — of what will probably be seen at a later date in the West End. Thrillers almost always make the trip, and there is the added attraction of Lynsey de Paul, more normally a singer and songwriter, appearing briefly in her first dramatic role.

There are indications that the play was never intended for the stage at all. With Emma Jackson's starkly functional designs — ingeniously flexible concrete walls that might have been borrowed from the National Theatre — the moves from a murder in what appears to be an underground car park are neatly made to a policeman's house, to a club used by whores and pimps, a police station, recording studios and to a drug dealer's flat. Only a duck pond in a park

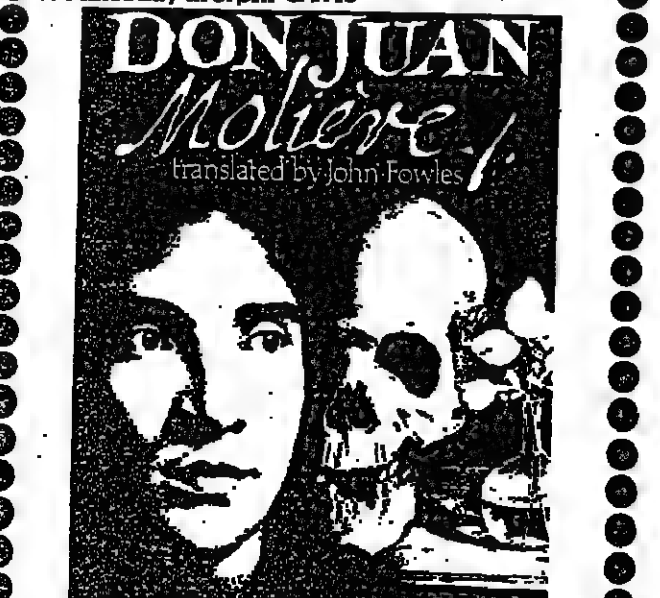
refuses to fit into her scheme, but the trail of murders and investigations suggests that film was the father to the play.

Mr Blair lays an elaborate trail of deception, giving motives to all the men, since the murders are all the work of a single man, Miss de Paul is chiefly required to be impressively, a Miss de Paul in her own composition and pose as the mistress of the policeman investigating the murders. That part is Maurice Colbourne, impressively played. Phillip Partridge's production has pace and menace, but there is a problem. Mr Blair, refreshingly, seems to know nothing of criminal or police procedures. Gratuitous police bullying, impoverished drug dealers and snappy banter add to the colour of the crime of Croydon. His innocence speaks well of his private life, but simplifies his twisting story.

He is lucky that Mr Partridge is so swift to move the actors in what is a fairly elaborate shell-game. The confusions work because the police rarely do what the law requires.

Ned Chaillet

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David Watt

## Why Prior cannot ignore Paisley and the Provos

Although the general election in the Irish Republic may be delayed by two or three weeks, another Northern Ireland "initiative" is in the offing, and Mr James Prior, its proud author, is already being told on all sides that he has about as much chance of solving the Ulster problem by fiddling with new constitutional options as a babe in arms has of solving Rubik's Cube. Why does he not go on quietly running the province from Westminster like that nice Mr Roy Mason, instead of stirring things up and making them worse like poor Premier-pecked Mr Humphrey Atkins?

The crucial answer to the last part of the question is that Mr Prior has little choice but to have another go. The idea that direct Westminster rule is the least of the available evils has been the prevailing conventional wisdom for most of the last 10 years. It may have been true for some of that period. But the position has looked less and less tenable as the atmosphere in Northern Ireland has deteriorated during the past nine months, and now actually begins to look like a recipe for long-term calamity.

It may seem odd to assert this when the security situation has been comparatively quiet and when the Provisional IRA has received several major blows at the hands of the army and the RUC. Nevertheless, it is a sad irony that these military successes are overshadowed by a shift to political extremism. Two developments have marked this change — the growing power of Mr Ian Paisley and the emergence of the Provisionals into the political arena. Since the election of Bobby Sands, the Provo hunger-striker, to the Westminster Parliament, and since the Northern Ireland local elections last May, the politics of the province have been polarized more than at any time since the emergency began.

On the Catholic side, moderate SDLP leaders like Mr John Hume have been driven into more and more Republican positions in order to avoid being outflanked by Sinn Féin, and now appear to have rejected all settlements, however temporary, in the context of the six counties of Northern Ireland. On the Protestant front, the Official Unionist Party is increasingly split and looks more and more like disintegrating. And underlying both these shifts is a social demoralization of political opinion. The Protestant middle classes have opted out of politics and are leaving the field to be occupied by the Paisleyites. The Catholics are back in their bunkers.

The logical — and indeed probable — outcome of all this is further steady progress for Mr Paisley's militant Protestantism, based on violent denunciations of the Westminster government's alleged failure to protect the province "adequately", and further electoral evidence of the despair and alienation of Catholics.

The Paisley line now points unmistakably to the notion of an "independent" Northern Ireland which would, in effect, restore the Protestant ascendancy by the application of simple majority rule. This in turn leads to the prospect of civil war. And it follows that unless, like Mr James Callaghan, *The Sunday Times*, and other wishful thinkers, one believes that the Protestants in an independent Northern Ireland could be restrained from abuse of their position by remote control of a financial kind from London, some new attempt to prevent the Paisley bandwagon rolling onwards has to be made. A kind of Paisleyite Unilateral Declaration of Independence is probably quite a long way off, other things being equal, but a sudden sharp increase in IRA activity or a sudden reversion to public opinion in Great Britain against the endless war could precipitate a major crisis very quickly.

How, then, are the moderate parties and their factions to be revived? Not by following the precepts of Mr Enoch Powell's wing of the Ulster Unionists and grating Northern Ireland completely into the United Kingdom — a course which would drive Catholics to desperation by, as it were, clanging the prison door on them for ever, and certainly not by further moves towards the Republic, which would simply be grist to Mr Paisley's mill.

Nor does an immediate attempt to impose a power-sharing executive look remotely realistic, only 18 months after Mr Atkins's failure. The alternative to an executive elected by Mr Atkins — a consultative Assembly, elected on a system of proportional representation — is also at first sight pretty futile, and for the same reason: that neither the Official Unionists nor the SDLP were interested.

But since there is no other opening shot on the board it is not surprising that Mr Prior should be reported to be trying the consultative Assembly again, with added inducements to the parties to make proper use of it.

What might these be? The most valuable from the Catholic point of view would be watchdog and veto powers over some aspects of administration, particularly as they affect human rights and non-discrimination for the Protestants. It is more difficult to devise alternatives, unless the Assembly gives them renewed access to power — which seems to be excluded by all the reasons which led to direct rule in the first place.

But is it? Mr Prior's contribution to the debate seems to have been to question this last assumption. According to the leaks from Belfast, he has thought up a

DUP (Paisleyite) 22 (31 percent)  
Official Unionist 18 (26 percent)  
SDLP 18 (26 percent)  
Alliance 8 (11 percent)  
Sinn Féin 4 (6 percent)

These figures (which are, by the way, my own illustrative guesses) show that if one set the executive "trigger" at 60 per cent of the votes in the Assembly, one would be uncomfortably close to giving the Paisleyites and the Official Unionists control (my own figures would give them 57 per cent together). On the other hand, if one sets the trigger at 70 per cent, one would (on my figures) give the Paisleyites a veto over any combination of parties.

It requires nice judgment, not only about present strengths, but also future trends, if one is to give strong encouragement to the Northern Ireland politicians to blur the edges of their differences and make coalitions across sectarian boundaries, without at the same time making it either too easy or too difficult. Nobody is likely to boycott the elections (the trial of strength is too tempting) but Mr Paisley will assuredly boycott the Assembly if he does not find himself somewhere within striking distance of power after the elections — and the SDLP will boycott it if it appears that Protestant control is likely to be re-established.

To these difficulties must be added the vital problem of whether Mr Prior should hold out the prospect that an Executive would control security. Irresponsibility will never be eradicated from Northern Ireland politicians until the security function is restored to them and shared in some way between the two communities. The sensitivity of the issue is so great that no government at Westminster dare transfer the function to politicians who are so irresponsible.

This is the final twist at the centre of the maze in which Ulster politics is lost, and there is no sign as yet that Mr Prior has penetrated to it. And yet it would be curious to criticize. He has already brought fresh imagination and a sense of movement to the scene and has grasped the fact that while there are no possible policies which are not fraught with appalling risks, we have now reached a point where the riskiest policy of all is to sit tight and do nothing.

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James Prior: not much choice...

'scheme which leaves' the Protestants with some light at the end of their tunnel — by stipulating that if the Assembly, as duly elected, can put together a stable and responsible Executive from its own members, the Westminster Government will hand over to that Executive.

The question, as yet unanswered, is what criteria are to be applied in judging what is stable and representative. Clearly a simple majority of the Assembly will not suffice, since that would obviously be a simple return to the Stormont system. But if a simple majority is not the answer, where should the hurdle be placed?

The problem can best be seen by looking at a plausible result of elections this spring for an Assembly of, say, 70 members (the number proposed by Mr Atkins):

## Twenty years of honed-up housewives

Everyone is thankful for their friends. But how do you find them? If you move from one neighbourhood to another, far away, you leave behind your friends, your life support systems of baby sitting and taking in parcels and milk bottles and, even worse, you have no one to talk to.

In 1960 Maureen Nichol, then a housebound housewife (with two small children) moved from the suburbs of Wolverhampton where, she says, "it took me two years to find a kindred spirit who was willing to do exchange baby sitting during the day". In her new home she had to start all over again, and she wrote a letter to *The Guardian*, outlining her predicament, in something of a cry from the heart.

Her cry is described in *The Lonely Woman*, the first twenty years of the *National Housewives Register*, by Betty Jernham (Heinemann, £9.50). Maureen Nichol's problems were shared by many women in the 1960s, and her letter resulted in the *National*

Housewives Register, an organization that, 20 years later, has more than 21,000 members meeting in 1,000 neighbourhood groups.

Like all great ideas, it was relatively simple. The 1960s, as Betty Jernham points out, was a transitional period for women. No longer did women consider themselves to be ordained housewives from the moment they married. At the same time, the educational opportunities for young women were not yet available for them to qualify for work traditionally done by men. There was a great physical upheaval, in that people moved to new housing estates, and to better housing away from their friends and families.

The world that mothers and children live in is also isolated. Many could not exchange anything like a reasonable conversation with another adult during the day, until their husbands came home in the evening.

Maureen Nichol, the founder of the NHR, contributes a chapter on the beginnings and is herself a typical NHR

member. First she had a job at Nathan's, the theatrical costumier, then came marriage, a move to Oxford where she worked, had a baby, and moved, through her husband's job, to a large council estate, which had provided one public house for the entertainment of the hundreds of people living there. Several dozen letters came as a result of her piece in *The Guardian*, and she rather reluctantly set about compiling a *National Register* with no telephone, no car, no money, no time and no typewriter. She wrote to *The Guardian* again about this and the avalanche started. The appointment of six regional officers followed. An article by the talented and sympathetic journalist, Moira Keenan, then on *The Sunday Times*, brought more than a thousand letters: other newspapers were not so sympathetic: *The Daily Mirror* asked "Will this lead to a break-up of the home?"

It is a touching, funny and inspiring story. No money was available, and small sums

were anxiously discussed — could they ask as much as five shillings membership? The original "office" was a collection of hand written letters in a shoebox in a kitchen cupboard. Leslie Taylor — an early *National Register* member — returned home from the maternity ward with a new baby having dealt with hundreds of letters during her ten days there.

Twenty years on there is a national conference every year, and the old informality has been regularized on a national level, with a constitution. All this had to be done — there was, for example, the discovery of a claim for VAT resulting in a bill for £600, for which funds did not exist.

They were all very anxious not to impose hierarchical structures, and "power" was kept very low. No one has become rich or famous working for the NHR — no one has used it as a stepping stone towards a job in the public eye.

Philippa Toomey

## Are the Red Brigades cracking at last?

Rome This winter of recession and unemployment was seen to provide Italian terrorists with their great opportunity. Instead there is some justification in now supposing that it may mark the long-awaited turn for the worst in terrorist fortunes.

Many of the known terrorist leaders are in prison. The freeing yesterday of General James L. Dozier, with the capture of five terrorists, was a dramatic blow to the militant wing of the Red Brigades, the far left guerrilla movement. It follows the arrest early this month of representatives of the opposing wing within the movement which was no less violent but was more political in its approach to the way kidnappings and murders should be exploited.

In particular, the arrest in Rome on January 7 of Giovanni Senzani decapitated a terrorist column already strong and active which was making a bid for leadership of the main terrorist forces in Italy. Many of what are known as the "historic chiefs" of terrorism, including Renato Curcio, recognized as one of the founders of the Red Brigades, had been arrested or re-arrested after escaping from prison.

In April, Mario Moretti, the ablest of the activists, whose exploits were coming dangerously near to the legendary in public opinion because of his apparent ability to keep at least a step ahead of the authorities, fell into a police trap in Milan. Then, with Senzani caught asleep in his bed in a Rome apartment full of weapons and plans for future attacks, the beast of terrorism suffered another in a series of multiple wounds.

A sinister growth which has developed over a full decade will not easily be destroyed. The Red Brigades movement, which became the most powerful of all, came on to the scene in August 1970 less than a year after Italy had its first experience of political terrorism. Its beginning is normally dated to December 12, 1968, when terrorists still officially unknown placed a bomb in a Milan bank which killed 16 people and injured about 100.

The Milan bank bombing is still technically under investigation. Public opinion normally sees it as a crime committed by the extreme right and not the extreme left and the same was felt about the bombing of the "italico" express train in August 1974 and the tragic explosion at

Bologna railway station in August 1980.

There is seen to be an essential difference between the terrorism of the extreme left and those of the extreme right. The former do not favour the latter's method of spectacular and indiscriminate massacre such as marked the Milan and Bologna bombings. In their decade of public activity, the Red Brigades and other groups aligning themselves on the left have grown increasingly violent but even now show some discrimination. In April, 1974, they carried out their first political kidnapping. They held a judge, Dr Mario Sossi, for 35 days and subjected him to "trial" but then released him.

Two months later they opened their own path of bloodshed by killing two neo-fascists in Padua, the city where General Dozier was liberated yesterday. They claimed that those killings resulted in the killing of a girl — allegedly a terrorist — called Anna Maria Ludmann. She originally came from Trieste. Her name was adopted by the Red Brigades column active in the Veneto area, which later played a leading part in General Dozier's kidnapping.

Genoa had also been the scene of Dr Sossi's kidnapping and, with Turin and Milan, was one of the early centres of left-wing terrorism. A police action there against a Red Brigades base resulted in the killing of a girl — allegedly a terrorist — called Anna Maria Ludmann. She originally came from Trieste. Her name was adopted by the Red Brigades column active in the Veneto area, which later played a leading part in General Dozier's kidnapping.

The most spectacular terrorist action and the only one that can be said to have substantially changed the internal political scene, was the kidnapping of Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat leader and former prime minister, in May 1978. It was the result of an agreement between the governing Christian Democrats and the Communists. He was seized on March 16, 1978, after his bodyguard of five men had been killed. He himself was murdered on May 9 in the centre of old Rome.

If the terrorists have been unable to match that operation since, the chronology of terrorist violence continues regularly to blot the Italian lives. Early last year the terrorists looked nearly invincible when they kid-

napped and held hostage four persons simultaneously, two of whom they killed, while two were released, including a Christian Democrat politician from the Naples area who was widely said to have been ransomed. The Dozier kidnapping was the first in which the victim was a non-Italian and in this sense was seen to be opening a new phase. In fact, what came about looked more like a misreading of the signs.

Slowly, something new had emerged. The atmosphere is different. Public opinion has gradually shown more confidence in the past few weeks, and in particular since General Dozier's release, that the time may at last have finished when the terrorists set the pace.

This is not the first time that hopes have been raised and no one can expect that a sinister growth which has had a decade in which to develop can lightly be removed. Moreover, the terrorists still had ambitious plans to judge by the reported contents of documents found in Senzani's flat. There was to be an assault on a maximum security prison, more kidnappings for political or financial benefit and — most dramatic of all — a massacre of Christian Democrat leaders at the party's national council held last week.

There are also specific examples to illustrate public feeling. On January 11 a trade unionist won a standing ovation from the Alfa Romeo workers assembly when he referred to terrorists as "those damned bastards". The unions have always opposed terrorism. But this was an outstanding expression of anti-terrorism.

The Communist party has likewise retained a firm approach, refusing any form of negotiation with terrorism. When two terrorists were caught near Tuscania last weekend they would have been lynched by the crowds if the carabinieri had not rushed them away. The results of the rounding up of the group to which those two belonged was the discovery of five more secret bases in Rome and Naples.

Another factor in this change was more essentially Italian; for some weeks it has become clear that the Red Brigades themselves have been afflicted by faction. The old idea of the tightly organized relentless little monolith no longer stood. For instance, Senzani is to have had a different outlook from

Moretti and from the militants of the Anna Maria Ludmann column. All of them, of course, believe in violence to reach their professed ends but personal ambition is also obvious in Senzani's case and ideological differences must arise from the various approaches taken by different columns and by individuals within a particular column.

This is a long way from the organization devised a decade ago by Curcio and the other "historic chiefs". They devised a hybrid derived from the experience of the resistance movement and the Latin American Tupamaros. The basis was the noncommunicating paired cell; above these cells was a cell commander and the cell commander was the brigade commander. The next line of organization was a column command consisting of four men, then up to the main strategic command and the small group of policy-makers. Each level was sealed from the next so that the capture of a man or woman at one level would not necessarily lead the investigators to other operatives below or above the person captured.

This system would clearly be seriously undermined by faction because there would then be no natural effort on the part of individual terrorists to find affinities outside the framework.

At the same time, the process of erosion was aided by a number of arrested terrorists who offered to give evidence in return for the hope of a lighter sentence. A government Bill is due to be approved shortly by parliament giving the legal basis for the treatment of what are called "repentant terrorists".

Individual contributions from varying levels within the terrorists' movement lowered investigators to build up a gradual and sometimes fragmentary picture of the whole apparatus. The terrorists themselves showed how they feared the confessions of their arrested comrades. One of their most horrifying recent murders was that of a young man, Roberto Peci, the brother of the best known of the captured terrorists who "repented". Roberto Peci was kidnapped, tortured, murdered and left in a filthy but used by animals and prostitutes, of the lowest level, on the outskirts of Rome. They filmed the shooting of the young man and the evidence would be found in one of the bases recently discovered by the police.

## THE TIMES DIARY



Being cast away alone on a desert island may not be everybody's idea of fun but being marooned on a sub-tropical paradise as the hundreds of other folk who have been shipwrecked during the course of the world's longest-running radio programme, *Desert Island Discs*, might not be so bad.

Or at least so one mused yesterday at the BBC's castaway-studded party to celebrate the show's fortieth anniversary. Just imagine rubbing sun-burnt shoulders with Paul McCartney, Princess Margaret, Margaret Thatcher, who were there, and Michael Palin, Frankie Howerd and Lord Asa Briggs (who were) on some sandy little atoll.

### Donkey's friend

John Lockwood, the eccentric who founded Britain's most famous donkey sanctuary was cremated yesterday in Guildford. The lovable black sheep of an illustrious family, who gave up a successful haulage business to devote his life to donkeys, Lockwood achieved notoriety a few years ago when he threatened Captain Mark Phillips with court action alleging cruelty to the Queen's horse, Columbus at Badington.

The brother of Sir Joseph Lockwood, a former chairman of BML, Charles Lockwood, an

Roy Plomley, the programme's dapper and diminutive host, would I suppose, inevitably become the group's de facto leader having dreamt up the idea in the first place. His brand of diplomacy was not always successful, as the Beverly Sisters might fall out or Acker Bilk might have a go at George Melly.

Lord Soper, John Mortimer and Sir Robin Day might form some kind of *ad hoc* kitchen cabinet, while Cliff Morgan and Harry Carpenter could organize the show's fortieth anniversary. Just imagine rubbing sun-burnt shoulders with Paul McCartney, Princess Margaret, Margaret Thatcher, who were there, and Michael Palin, Frankie Howerd and Lord Asa Briggs (who were) on some sandy little atoll.

### Fortnum takeaway

Signs of irritation among the normally composed staff may be detected at the Queen's grocers, Fortnum and Mason in Piccadilly.

Some of the longer serving members lost their composure earlier this week when a gang of navies marched into the ground floor to remove the fluted plaster columns which have decorated the central aisle for donkey's years and dismember the hand-carved mahogany food counters with sledgehammers.

The counters are to be replaced with veneered chipboard of foreign manufacture as part of the refurbishment of the floor which, Fortnum's explain, is badly designed to make things "easier" for customers and partly to celebrate the store's 275th anniversary.

Staff, who regard the changes as uncultured, remain suspicious of the company's announcement that the original items will be preserved until a decision is taken on what to do with them. Moreover, I understand that representations will be made to local conservation organizations.

### What a corker

Knowing how to define Bouzy without making personal remarks about the customers is but one of the tributes of the wine waiter of the year, Charles Pignin, who won the title yesterday in an annual competition for sommeliers organized by Grants of St. James's had a host of drinking problems to overcome on his way to success.

There are many of us who are

Show many objects to me going to a disco in case I meet a train driver...



recommended with fish went on to face a practical test in which a party of diners asked for a wine that would suit both game and veal, dinner cups and before the meal, and wanted something that would go nicely with fresh pineapple.

Those who lamely suggested the house red, or who agreed that Muscadet was "Nice and sweet" were quickly eliminated, and the surviving six faced a grueling quiz on the lines of Mastermind. Pignin, who manages Hamilton's restaurant in Manchester, said afterwards: "Of course most customers know what they want, and I cannot tell them they are wrong. I can only make suggestions. The danger, of course, is that clients now might justifiably take him for something of a know-all."

### Under the knocker

Geoffrey James, the property developer who brought Beatles' Apple headquarters far from development has resold the building — with the exception of the front door. A member of the committee at the St James's Club, he has decided that the door (a remarkable item of Beatles' memorabilia complete with carved signatures of many of those who used it) should be disposed of at closed auction for the benefit of the club's favorite charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind. The door, now being framed, is expected to fetch up to £3,000 and Leslie Bricusse, the composer of popular music, is regarded as a leading contender for it.

Michael Horsnell

## New man at the Tories' research HQ

The remote Peter Cropper starts work on Monday as the new director of the Conservative Research Department — an appointment widely regarded in Tory circles as an attempt by the Prime Minister to retrieve it from its recent period of inactivity. A full-blooded supporter of the Government's economic policies, Cropper's main concerns will be to see that the department is well-oiled for the next election, and to coordinate the preparation of the Conservative manifesto.

Mr. Cropper, 54, who replaces the Welsh Alan Howarth as director, has worked for the CRD twice before — from 1951, six weeks before the general election, until 1953, and between 1975 and 1976. During the period between he was an investment analyst and member of the Stock Exchange. But since 1979 he has been a special adviser at the Treasury.

A somewhat grey character, who is married with one child, he is expected to develop a closer liaison between the CRD and the Government. It is no secret that since she became Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher has tended to regard the department as a sort of citadel of Heathite conservatism, and her scepticism, coupled with the fact that the CRD has had comparatively little to do since the party came into office, has sent it into the coldrooms. Cropper told me yesterday: "The CRD has ticked over quite





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## ALL ABOUT SOLVENCY

The public finances of the Irish Republic are in a bad way. Ireland took successive oil price shocks in its stride by borrowing and inflating. It was a time of spring-like confidence in the Irish economy. There was a trend of high growth, sunrise industries were being successfully naturalized from the United States, Germany and Japan, and the important farming sector was enjoying unknown prosperity as it rapidly moved up to EEC price levels for its product — an agricultural boom that has duly burst. Nobody wanted to let Opel spoil all that. Better to borrow and print, and Ireland, which had stable government, a good growth record and a population structure of an unusually young profile, found that it also had a high credit rating abroad.

The consequences were succinctly described the other day by Senator T. K. Whitaker, Ireland's most distinguished postwar public servant, who had a great deal to do with his country's earlier economic take-off. "We now have one of the highest inflation rates in the EEC, an external deficit of unsustainable proportions, and an overhang of debt, domestic and foreign, the interest on which alone is absorbing 30 per cent of total tax revenue." The people of Ireland are now more indebted to foreign bankers than the people of Poland. Growth has fallen back to 1 per cent. Unemployment has climbed to 11 per cent.

In last summer's general election Dr. Garret FitzGerald successfully pressed the charge of economic incompetence against Mr. Charles Haughey. He came to power pledged to restore the public finances by cutting the deficit and reducing dependence on foreign creditors. But the coalition out of which his government was formed was festooned

with other political pledges that interfered with that objective. Worse, with his overall majority of minus three, Dr. FitzGerald had to rely upon the parliamentary support of a handful of independents of varying shades of socialism. It was that that gave way on Wednesday night.

His government's budget was a courageous attempt to embark on the uphill road to solvency. But Dr. FitzGerald had boxed himself in. While the cost of maintaining the activities of government as a constant level, continued remorselessly to rise, his ministers failed to achieve a significant net reduction in public expenditure for the coming year. To make matters worse, the government had just awarded a 16 per cent pay rise to its overlarge army of overpaid employees, and had to budget for an 18 per cent increase in the bill for pay and pensions in the public sector. (Echoes of the first year of Mrs. Thatcher's government.)

The central fiscal promise Dr. FitzGerald had made the electorate was to cut the standard rate of income tax to 25 per cent, compensating as necessary out of indirect taxes. The budget did not cut the standard rate, but it could hardly in the face of that promise put it up. So with no reduction in expenditure, no scope for higher rates of income tax and no stomach for capital taxes, the deficit could only be cut by raising sales and excise taxes. The budget proposed, giving another sharp kick to inflation. It proved too much for Dr. FitzGerald's fragile parliamentary majority. Mr. Haughey has immediately accused ministers of exaggerating the seriousness of the nation's financial disorders, in which he shows his consistency since he made light of them as they accumulated during his own recent period of office. But he may not find that a profitable line to pursue in the election campaign into which the Republic is now plunged. In the first place the Irish public has a pretty strong sense by now that something is seriously amiss. In the second place the Fianna Fail party has not been at ease with itself since Mr. Haughey toppled Mr. Lynch from the leadership and premiership in December 1979. Only the other day, in a new amendment to the wounds inflicted in that event, Mr. Haughey brought in as frontbencher spokesman on finance, Mr. Martin O'Donoghue, a former economic minister whom Mr. Haughey excluded from his cabinet when he became prime minister. Mr. O'Donoghue did not endorse the high spending, high borrowing policies that followed, and he has recently been deploring excessive foreign indebtedness.

How to regain solvency and how to distribute the pain. These are the questions that will dominate the election. It is a common misconception that the people of the Republic are in a constant state of high excitement about the "national question" of Irish unity. The back burner is the actual place for that. What really does exercise them is that the unwelcome prosperity they have been experiencing shall not be lost. And some among them are deeply anxious about the possible consequences of a serious failure of the economy in a society which is predominantly youthful and less amenable than before to civil sanctions and ecclesiastical authority; to which few of the traditional routes of profitable emigration are left open; and which harbours an underground culture of the gun.

## WANTED, A LAY-OFF CLAUSE

Of all the 18 clauses in the Employment Bill, published yesterday, the one that would be most useful, if enacted, to British Rail in its dispute with Aslef is one which has been left out. The dispute is costing BR £14m a week, largely because the terms of its contracts with its employees make it uncertain that it has any legal right to lay off the majority who turn up and have to be paid even when there is no work for them to do. A clause enabling an employer to lay off workers in such circumstances, as proposed by the Engineering Employers' Federation, would do much to restore the balance of industrial power in dispute where small groups of workers are strategically placed to bring large organizations to a halt.

Of course, the fact that such a provision would help one side in one current dispute is not proof in itself that it would be desirable or just. But the strong interest that the outside public have in a settlement bringing gains in productivity, as well as the even stronger interest in the same thing of the majority of railway workers who have already accepted the need for flexible rostering, both demonstrate the enormous leverage power that a small industrial group can wield in the absence of such a clause.

Aslef is able by itself to block the improvement of efficiency in their large and heavily subsidized service industry even though it represents only a tenth of the workers in that industry. Many other groups possess similar power in other industries. There is in such cases an imbalance of industrial power.

A lay-off clause would be little help to a management trying to push through changes against the entrenched opposition of most of the workforce; in that case it would merely have the effect of uniting them against him all the more strongly. But it would be a valuable tool of industrial diplomacy to help isolate a destructive minority. There would need to be safeguards for the pension and redundancy rights of innocent bystanders laid off, and due notice of the management's intentions. The law already provides that a minimum of five days' pay must be given to workers laid off through lack of work, as frequently occurs in the motor industry. It would be against natural justice for employees to be laid off under this clause because of disputes not directly involving their unions or their employers.

## TURKEY'S EUROPEAN CREDENTIALS

The parliamentary assembly of the Council of Europe has adopted a very sensible attitude to the problem of human rights and democracy in Turkey, which is one of the Council's 21 member states.

The Council is an association of democratic states, formed with the specific object of upholding the value of democracy and freedom, including human rights. Its greatest achievement has been the European Convention on Human Rights with its machinery, unique in international relations, of a Commission to investigate complaints and a Court to adjudicate them. It has no powers of enforcement. The only sanction it can use is condemnation and, in the last resort, suspension or termination of the offending state's membership.

Precisely because it is the last resort, the expulsion of a member-state is not something to be decided lightly or hastily. Every attempt must be made to use the machinery of the Council to restore freedom and human and political rights to the citizens of the state in question before the decision is reached that they can only be helped by casting their government, so to speak, into outer darkness.

The case of the Greek dictatorship of 1967-74 provides the now-classic precedent. The colonels seized power in May 1967. A complaint against them was for-

mally lodged with the Human Rights Commission by three Scandinavian governments in September of that year. The Commission took two years to complete its investigations and it was only in December 1969 that the Council of Ministers was ready to decide on Greece's expulsion — a decision forestalled by the Greek government's last-minute withdrawal.

It is now 16 months since General Evren and his colleagues seized power in Turkey. Yet a recommendation for Turkey's immediate expulsion from the Council would certainly have been premature. For one thing, the political circumstances in Turkey are far less clear-cut than they were in Greece. A strong case could be made for saying that democracy had already broken down, with stalemate in parliament and terror in the streets, before the military takeover occurred, and that a period of authoritarian rule to set the country back on its feet was inescapable. For another, the specific allegations of human rights violations have yet to be investigated by the Commission. Under the terms of the resolution, this should now be done.

The Commission's procedure is secret, and is bound to take at least some months. Rather than taking umbrage and walking out of the Council,

at this stage, the Turkish generals should take advantage of the respite offered to try to restore the faith of their fellow-Europeans in their good faith. General Evren has already spoken of a referendum in November of this year, to be followed by general elections a year later. But more important than the precise timetable are the conditions in which the return to democracy takes place, for these will determine whether it is genuine democracy or not. In particular, there must be genuine freedom of expression, and no one should be deprived of his political rights unless a court of law has found him guilty of a serious crime (such as incitement to violence). Otherwise the electorate will not enjoy true freedom of choice. Above all, the government must make a serious effort to put an end to the practices referred to in a recent Amnesty International report, according to which 60 people have died in custody since the coup of September 1980.

It would also greatly improve the Turkish Government's standing in Europe if it were seen to make a serious and urgent effort to reach a solution to the Cyprus conflict, enabling it to end the Turkish occupation of northern Cyprus which has now persisted for seven and a half years.

## Scientific output in Britain

From Professor P. V. Danckwerts, FRS

Sir, Professor Hobbs (January 25) quotes content-analysis of scientific periodicals in the decade 1970-1980 to suggest that British scientific output declined during this period. It may have done so but the statistics are irrelevant unless one can first define "scientific output" and then correlate it with the number of publications in scientific periodicals.

I have been editor of an international journal of engineering science for over 20 years. The main change in the nature and number of the papers submitted over this period has been that they have increased in number, the proportion coming from the USA and the Far East as against Europe has increased and there has been a large increase in the number of contributions from universities. The pressure to publish is obvious, while it is difficult to get interesting contributions from industry, where much of the relevant research and development is done, because there is a lack of incentive or even an actual disincentive to publish. The unfortunate result is that much of the material actually published tends to be infilling rather than an expansion of the frontiers of knowledge. I have not been aware of an absolute decline in the value of the contributions from British universities. I think it would be extremely naive to try to deduce from the number of articles or words published by British scientists or engineers the value of their contribution to useful knowledge. If one must indulge in such chauvinistic exercises there are other more reliable indicators.

Yours,  
PETER DANCKWERTS, FRS,  
Department of Chemical Engineering,  
University of Cambridge,  
Pembroke Street,  
Cambridge,  
January 25.

From Mr P. A. B. Whitmee

Sir, Professor Hobbs' letter (January 25), drawing attention to the comparative decline in British scientific research output between 1970 and 1980 certainly does deserve serious consideration although probably not in the way he intended. As management consultants we have observed during this period a marked movement of high grade scientists from research into industry. This trend has been particularly noticeable over the last two years covering a wide variety of functions and characterised by a large proportion of such individuals setting up their own businesses.

We appreciate that these changes may diminish this country's prestige in the scientific world, but we applaud and encourage a belated recognition by our best brains of the value of the talent to be found in the industrial sphere.

Yours faithfully,  
P. A. B. WHITMEE,  
The Welbeck Group Limited,  
Panton House,  
25 Haymarket, SW1,  
January 27.

## Open secret

From Mr Michael Robbins

Sir, You report from Bonn (January 23) that "secret" plans by Hitler for a very broad gauge railway across Europe have been unearthed. Such a railway was certainly planned, was indeed one of Hitler's personal schemes; but "secret", in the sense that nothing has been known about it until now, it was not.

It has been mentioned in Hitler's Table Talk (1951), Albert Speer's memoirs (1969), and W. Maser's Hitler (1971); the eminent French railwayman Louis Armand ironically described how Reichsbahn engineers consulted with him on the subject during the war in an essay of 1970; and particulars of the locomotive designs, 52 axles and all, were published in a German magazine in the same year.

But if Herr Joachimsthaler's new book gives any explanation of the extraordinary idea it will help to throw light on another aspect of that remarkable character.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL ROBBINS,  
7 Courthouse Villas, SW19,  
January 24.

## Better informed?

From Professor Denis Pym

Sir, This Information Technology Year your paper so noisily acclaims in a special report (January 14) smacks of yet another imposition in the name of progress. Do we need the information technology officers? Will it elevate the human condition or just make a monkey out of man?

In my view too much of the content of the information technology we've already got is indistinguishable from noise and too much a substitute for experience, everyday experience like doing things for ourselves, thinking, relating to others, living. Of course, it serves some commercial interests and it sustains "make-work" employment, and it keeps us in the happy, dependent, in consumerism of junk. But as an imposition it only degenerates the human soul.

Yours sincerely,  
DENIS PYM,  
Professor of Organizational Behaviour,  
London Business School,  
Sussex Place,  
Regents Park, NW1,  
January 18.

## Rail blacking 'The Times' and 'The Sun'

From Lord Hunt

Sir, I read with some concern your leader article, "The union censors" your issue dated January 26. You say that you find it sad that so few people have felt willing or able to speak about "this blatant limitation" on the free flow of information imposed recently by some members of Aslef in refusing to carry copies of Murdoch Group newspapers out of King's Cross, on grounds of an article in *The Sun* to which they objected, notwithstanding the advice of their General Secretary not to be provoked.

As one of the members of the Royal Commission on the Press, 1974-77, I write to support your views in strongly condemning such action, particularly following the undertaking given by two union officials to the High Court.

But there is another side of the coin. You make the valid point that "the press does not claim to be perfect. It claims to be free". This is fundamental to our democracy. But it is no less fundamental that the press, which, like the train drivers, bears a heavy public responsibility, should also act responsibly. I find it sad that you should have made no mention of this.

Can you seriously claim that it was a responsible decision on the part of the Editor of *The Sun*, other than in purely commercial terms, to give front-page, banner headline treatment, at a time of such sensitivity over the dispute which is dislocating British Rail, to allegations made regarding malpractices by certain train drivers? While it was obviously right that such revelations should be reported, the sensational treatment of the subject matter, tending to convey the impression that such practices are rife, was most unwise and probably unjustified.

By my book, it was a blatant example of editorial indiscretion.

Yours truly,  
JOHN HUNT,  
House of Commons,

## Social sciences

From Professor Charles Feinstein and Professor Alan Williams

Sir, Professor Ferris (January 21) is right in pointing out that it is ultimately the taxpayer who supports social science research, but the rest of his letter does not contribute very helpfully to a clarification of the fundamental issue, which is how much and what sort of social science research should the taxpayer be supporting? There are essentially three criteria which should appeal to the community:

1. The extension of our capacity to understand the society in which we live;
2. The extension of our capacity to improve that society (e.g. its economic performance or its social policies);
3. The development of a critical apparatus that would enable us to judge the extent to which any actual or proposed reforms are, on balance, beneficial.

The problem of research support is, then, one of finding channels for directing finance to those people who are most likely to succeed. This is intrinsically a high-risk enterprise, in which the reasonable strategy is to carry a diverse "portfolio" of "investments" with different "funds" pursuing different policies (i.e. giving different weight to each of the criteria mentioned above).

The University Grants Committee and the universities and, to some extent, the research councils (including the SSRC) should be giving relatively great weight to 1. Government departments are more likely to be attracted to 2 (assuming that prerequisite work under 1 is being supported through other channels), and although they should be equally interested in 3, this may prove to be very sensitive, and its findings unwelcome, so it is likely to be approached with considerable

## Consular service

From Lady Marley

Sir, Petty theft in the street is a hazard to which we are now exposed as a simple, if regrettable, fact of life. The inconvenience is compounded, however, if it happens to occur abroad. Having had my bag searched just after noon on a recent Saturday in Paris (and having also just cashed a cheque), I found the attitude of casual bystanders, as of the police themselves, a revelation of kindness and efficiency.

But the British Consulate? Yes, they could issue a temporary passport for a fee of £3, but regretted that there would be an additional charge of £17 for service "out of hours" i.e. after 12pm on Saturday. £20 in all, then, was the price to be exacted of a tax-paying British subject for the privilege of returning to his own country, with — so far as they knew — no friends, no contacts and not so much as a Metro fare. The kindly French couple who accompanied me to the police station, from which I telephoned the consulate, were as appalled as I was.

Yours faithfully,  
DOONIE MARLEY,  
104 Ebury Mews, SW1,  
January 18.

## JPs' justice

From Mr David Wolchover

Sir, In their encomium reported today (January 25) on the better quality of justice in magistrates' courts as against the crown court, the Justices' Clerks Association appear to have forgotten why jury trial is so often the preferred choice of defendants maintaining their innocence.

It is now nearly half a decade

## Jewish reference in Benn speech

From the Director of the Press Council

Sir, Your leading article of January 26, said accurately that none of the general answers to error and falsehood in the British press was conclusive. It identified the Press Council as one, saying fairly that the Council takes time to establish the facts in any particular case and issue its rebukes or acquittals. It is conscious of this difficulty and doing its best to speed those processes, but not at the expense of their fairness.

On the day your leader appeared the Press Council said the right to answer to unpalatable reporting and hostile comment could never be the blacking of newspapers by those who distributed them.

It is not surprising railwaymen should feel angry and aggrieved at allegations made against train drivers and reported prominently, but anger at reports and comments cannot excuse a blockade of newspapers because of their contents. To support or condone the blockade is to erode freedom.

In the Council's view the drivers attacked, like any other group, could expect the opportunity to correct inaccuracies, answer their critics and put a contrary view. Those denied that right have a sound ground for complaint to the Press Council but the case is not advanced by resort to the weapons of censorship or blockade. Mr Morris's letter (January 27) touches on a good point: whatever the defects and inconveniences of, a free press and free trade unions are closely united as they are the first casualties of totalitarian regimes.

Yours etc,  
KENNETH MORGAN,  
The Press Council,  
1 Salisbury Square, EC4,  
January 28.

## Proper names

From Lord Norwich

Sir, It started off well. Only a few minutes after I succeeded to my father's title, I handed over my shiny new passport — in which the prefix "The Right Honourable" was written out in full — to the receptionist at the Slon Hotel, Ljubljana, and was duly inscribed in his register as the one thing I had always wanted to be: Mr R. J. REES.

Since then, however, I have gone steadily downhill. There was a bad moment some years ago when another receptionist, ashen-faced, handed me a sinister-looking envelope on which I was addressed as "The Vice Count" but even then the depths were not yet plumbed. The ultimate — I hope — humiliation came only quite recently, when I received a missive addressed to me in the style according to which I now sign myself — as.

Your obedient servant,  
The Discom Norwich,  
JOHN JULIUS NORWICH,  
24 Blomfield Road, W9,  
January 25.

## A diary in question

From Dr Jacqueline Simpson

Sir, Whatever Lady Walley (January 26) may think, it does make a difference whether an alleged diary is an authentic document or an amusing forgery. To take a simple example: for over a hundred years folklorists have been curious about the custom of "sin-eating", now well-known through Mary Webb's novel *Precious Bane*. Reliable accounts of this custom are extremely rare, and all seem to derive from one man, the seventeenth-century antiquarian John Aubrey.

When I saw *The Diary of a Farmer's Wife* on television I was excited to notice an episode involving a "sin-eater" and here was an apparent confirmation of Aubrey from an independent source; here was an occurrence of this rare custom at a different period and in a different area, thus extending our information beyond Aubrey's statement. Or so it seemed. As your readers know, all it was was pretty fiction. Sir, it does matter.

Yours faithfully,  
JACQUELINE SIMPSON,  
Editor of Folklore,  
The Folklore Society,  
c/o University College London,  
Gower Street, WC1.

## Tank think

From Mr Richard Need

Sir, Petrol (refined by a complex process from precious fossils) costs about £1.70 per gallon; an increase in this price by a few pence frays tempers and makes news.

Yesterday I was told that my gin-and-tonic would cost an extra twopenny because the tonic (4 fl oz) had gone up from 24 pence to 26 pence. This means that tonic (water plus traces of a few cheap additives) now costs £10.40 per gallon due to an overnight increase of 80 pence per gallon.

Everyone in the bar paid up without a murmur.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD NEED,  
49 Bonner Hill Road,  
Kingston Upon Thames,  
Surrey,  
January 26.















BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

Ms Smith did take note

Christina Smith, former secretary to the Habitat millionaire Terence Conran, finds herself in the position to dictate to her former boss.

Ms Smith has bought at auction the freehold of Conran's Covent Garden design studios next door to his Neal Street Restaurant, for more than £200,000.

After working for Conran before he got Habitat going in the 1960s Ms Smith set up her own company, Goods and Chattels, marketing household goods. Habitat became her first large customer. She later set up two shops in Covent Garden but still makes regular buying trips to China as Habitat's agent.

Taking advantage of stagnant prices when Covent Garden market moved across the river to Nine Elms, Ms Smith set about converting warehouses into offices, studios and shops, later negotiating long leases or buying the freehold. She now controls more than 170,000 sq ft of commercial space in an area where property values are climbing once again.

She lives on the top floor of a former war house, directly above Conran's restaurant. A perfect position for a landlady to keep an eye on her tenants.



Landlady Christina Smith yesterday.

Adam-style mini computers

Adam Osborne is a Briton who made good in the United States but is now back in Britain trying to make even better.

Osborne, 42, left this country 20 years ago and subsequently founded his own software house Osborne Computer Corporation. He is back in Britain to set up a British subsidiary to market his first venture into hardware — a portable microcomputer the size of a small sewing machine.

This is the Osborne 1, which has a built-in video screen. It is meant for the workaholic who wants to take the computer home — and he can use it in the car as well.

Osborne tells *People* that one of his battery pack portables is already bumping around Africa with chimpanzee expert Jane Goodall.

Mitterrand's men of steel

A former oilman, Raymond Levy, aged 54, is to succeed Claude Etchegary as head of France's biggest steel company, Usinor. At another newly-nationalized steel firm, Sacilor, Jacques Mayoux is to be replaced as chairman by a civil servant, steel specialist Claude Doll.

These steel appointments have been announced before those at the banks, because steel was not included in the nationalization bill.

Levy, a former deputy chairman of Elf Aquitaine, was widely expected to get the Usinor job after an earlier appointment as chairman of Aciers Speciaux, a Usinor-Creusot-Loire speciality steel joint venture.



NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Gordon Alexander and Mr Philip Plumridge have been appointed corporate finance directors of the newly-formed large corporate division of Barclays Bank.

Mr Peter J. Hall has been elected chairman of the Hire Association Europe.

Mr John S. Harris, Mr John C. Piley and Mr Richard W. Smith have been appointed directors of Henderson Unit Trust Management.

Mr A. J. Taylor has been appointed director of Arundell House Securities.

Malcolm Brown and Edward Townsend

How Mr De Lorean ran into a roadblock

Mr John Zachary De Lorean is a gambler. On Wednesday night as he flew into London for a crisis meeting with Mr James Prior, he told the assembled television cameras that in one important respect motor companies were like banks: if their credibility was damaged, customers took to the hills.

But, said the founder and chairman of the De Lorean car company, he would fight on and he was sure that after the Prior talks he would have something for the Press which would please them.

It was almost as if De Lorean, who looks and sounds as though he was drawn straight from the Central Casting List of top American industrialists, was daring fate to lead him a bad card.

It did. At 1am yesterday Mr De Lorean emerged from his talks with the Northern Ireland Secretary with the message that there would be no further assistance for the Dummurry, West Belfast, company.

He had come seeking £36m in financial guarantees from the Export Credits Guarantee Department. With that denied, major redundancies and a recasting of the Dummurry operation were inevitable.

The question now is whether the De Lorean Motor company can survive. Can it draw in its horns and sweat out the American recession — America is the sole market for the gull-winged car — or is it on the way towards total collapse?

The prognosis is not good. According to Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, the company had made 7,681 cars by the end of last year. By January 15 only 4,756 had been sold to dealers in America and only 3,085 retail sales had been reported.

In short, a large number of cars are either in stock or in transit. They have to be financed and money is short. Whether the car is salable or not becomes almost a secondary consideration at a time like this. Nor are the dealers' contractual commitments to buy 43,000 cars under their agreements with the company of much consolation. There would be little benefit for De Lorean in pushing dealers to the wall.

The priority must be to finance the growing stocks. Mr De Lorean needed Export Credit Guarantee Department backing if he was to be able to raise money from the banks to keep the whole operation at its present level in anticipation of an upturn later this year. Without it he is in trouble.

As one observer put it yesterday: "One is looking forward to a three-month period of chickens coming home to roost in the company."

As Mr De Lorean is well aware, the absence of government backing could bring a lot of related problems in its train. Suppliers who have extended credit to the De Lorean company will start to press for repayment. Dealers in the United States, some of whom have already found their own credit lines being shortened, could now come under even heavier pressure. Even those dealers who are shifting cars will

project only three months ago (at a time when allegations about company dealings were casting a cloud over Mr De Lorean). Mr Mason described the reservations which he had to overcome in Whitehall. Three months on, those reservations do not seem so ill-founded as Mr Mason seemed to be suggesting.

The Department of Trade was concerned that the cars were going into a single market — the United States. The Treasury was concerned about the cost. The Foreign Office asked whether a market survey had established that there was a market.

The company although it has been planning to sell into the Middle East, Canada and even Europe as business built up — is still selling into a single market, America, and that market has stalled. The costs have clearly become too great for the government to bear and the question whether there is really a market for the car remains largely unresolved.

The downturn in the American car market has been a crucial factor in bringing De Lorean's troubles to a head. In a good year America can support a market of 10.5m new cars. Last summer, as De Lorean was handing over his first £205,000 royalty cheque to the government, analysts were still predicting that more than 9m cars would be sold.

But the expected second half recovery in the market never materialised, and by the end of last year only 8.5m new cars had been sold in the United States. Reflecting that downturn was a small, but not insignificant pointer from some De Lorean dealers that they were now selling the cars at a discount.

The assessors now ordered in by Mr Prior to run a slide rule over the De Lorean operation will have two things to decide: first whether there is a prospect of the American car market in general and the market for two-seater sports cars in particular picking up; secondly, whether the De Lorean company, as at present structure, could fully exploit such a market.

There will certainly be a seasonal upswing in the American car market this spring, but few experts would put their money on that being sustained throughout the year. Most analysts are looking towards 1983 for the resurgence of the market, but that, it is stressed, very much depends on America pulling out of the economic doldrums over the next 12 months. How the



Over an obstacle in London yesterday: others may prove more difficult for Mr De Lorean

specialist part of that market will fare will be even more difficult to gauge, but the assessors will certainly want to explore why it was, that the company's attempts to raise cash on Wall Street have been so troubled.

That in turn will lead them into an investigation of the structure of the company and of the place in that structure of John Zachary De Lorean.

Certainly before the Dummurry project Mr De Lorean had built up a formidable and later very controversial — track record. The son of a millwright at the Ford Motor Company foundry in Detroit, he progressed — after a short spell selling life insurance — through the ranks of Chrysler and Packard, finally, in 1956, joining the Pontiac division of General Motors.

It was to be a 17 year sojourn at GM ending in some acrimony when he resigned in 1973, disillusioned with the direction that General Motors was taking. But in those 17 years he worked his way towards a \$650,000 a year in salary, bonuses and ultimately had

effective charge of five American car divisions (Chevrolet, Buick, Oldsmobile, Pontiac and Cadillac), the truck and coach division and the Canadian car and truck operations.

Five years after the GM resignation he was in Belfast signing the documents which would give the De Lorean motor car company its start in Belfast. The cynics, including many in Detroit, said that the gull-wing door stainless steel car would never see the light of day.

But it has provided 2,600 much needed jobs in Belfast.

Now it appears that Mr De Lorean has made commercial miscalculations — no worse than his opposite numbers in competing companies, but De Lorean is a much more fragile animal. The question will certainly arise whether a restructuring might have to involve a change in role for Mr De Lorean himself.

The company must have the strength of the banks round it if it is to survive. It would be ironic if Mr De Lorean had to make the ultimate sacrifice to ensure that.



The Belfast factory — born in a blaze of publicity, it seemed like a godsend to the then Secretary of Northern Ireland, Mr Roy Mason

Reaching for the sky in Hongkong

TECHNOLOGY: ARCHITECTURE

By Clive Cookson

Later this year scores of Chinese families will camp out on the concrete site of the commercial district of Hongkong, each group manually digging out one hole for the building's foundations in the time-honoured tradition of the colony. Then, as the building progresses, it will be clad in the bamboo scaffolding that has always encased Hongkong's growing office blocks.

From that low technology base is going to rise the world's most advanced skyscraper. It is the new £200m headquarters for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, an architectural commission won by the London firm of Foster Associates in an international competition 2½ years ago.

The striking feature of the overall design is that, unlike other tower blocks, it has no central core to support lifts, services and floors. Foster has put that obstruction on the outside.

The floors are suspended from beams between the steel masts of the bank's outer frame. All the lifts, toilets and services such as water, power, heating and cooling are clipped onto the east and west faces of the building — nothing gets in the way of the open office space.

The so-called Vierendeel masts which support the skyscraper have been used before for small structures like footbridges, but never for a building. Each mast is a close group of four tapering steel columns, braced at every storey by short steel rods.

Architects have traditionally been suspicious of Vierendeel structures because they are liable to deflect. But

the computing power available today enabled Ove Arup and Partners, Foster's consulting engineers, to design masts strong enough for the bank, by calculating the most effective stiffness of the columns and the cross-bracing.

During the typhoons that occasionally hit Hongkong, the bank's side walls will have to take as much horizontal force as the vertical loading on the floors or, as Mike Glover of Ove Arup put it: "It's like having everyone in a football stadium standing on the outside."

Foster and Arup have conducted extensive wind tunnel tests at the University of Western Ontario, Canada, with a scale model of the bank and the surrounding buildings, to measure the wind patterns and ensure that the structure can withstand the strongest gusts. The results have been incorporated in a precise computer model of the building.

Another technological advance which helped make the building possible was the aircraft industry's development of extremely light but strong flooring. This material, composed of an aluminium honeycomb, will be used for the bank's raised floors. It can be taken up very easily to gain access to the electrical, telecommunications and computer cables beneath.

The suspension technique allowed Foster to break out of the claustrophobic uniformity of most office buildings, vertically by a central lift to the floor you want. In the bank a specific outer lift will take the visitor non-stop to one of four large intermediate spaces — twice the height of a normal office storey —

gain significant extra space from Mr Foster's "more human" design. The absence of a central core allows 73.5 per cent of the building's interior space to be used — conventional skyscrapers achieve 65 per cent at best.

Britain's main contribution is the 25,000 ton steel frame, ordered from the British Steel Corporation for £50 million. The contract for the service modules went to Japan, while the United States is providing the bank's "cladding" (the outer covering of glass and aluminium, including sun control louvers).

The construction technology will allow the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank unusual flexibility to change the building after it is completed. The design is as large as the complicated local regulations permit on the tight site; the skyscraper must allow a certain minimum level of light to fall onto the streets around it. But if the laws change — as they frequently do in Hongkong — or if nearby buildings are redeveloped, the bank could expand by 30 per cent without altering its basic structure.

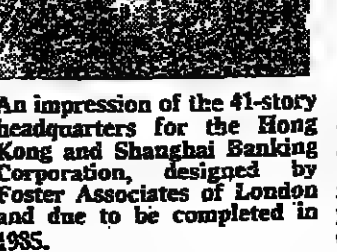
Interior lighting is an area in which Foster has been particularly innovative. For example an elaborate system of concave exterior mirrors and internal reflectors will "scoop" natural light into the five-storey high banking hall at the base of the building. The hall will have a translucent glass floor which sends the light down into the basement during the day, and glows with artificial light from below at night.

The office ceilings will be a sophisticated arrangement of curved mirrors, reflecting as much daylight and communal

artificial light as possible onto the workers' desks. The bank's electricity consumption should be cut substantially as a result.

In addition, staff will have individual ceiling spotlights over their desks. They will also have more control over their "microclimate" than in the traditional airconditioned building, with their own vents to provide hot or cold air, like passengers in a spacious airliner.

Norman Foster is obsessed with aeroplanes and flying. Many of his ideas, which strike the building industry as daring high technology, are merely transfers of standard practice in the aircraft industry. An example is "superplastic aluminium", which British Aerospace had used widely in aircraft components before Foster picked it up for his Sainsbury Centre at the University of East Anglia.



An impression of the 41-storey headquarters for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, designed by Foster Associates of London and due to be completed in 1985.

full of greenery, water and cafes.

From that atrium, escalators will take people up or down to their own office floor.

The building will be broken-down into a cluster of vertical villages rather than an institutional whole," said the chief architect Norman Foster.

Surprisingly, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank will

Business Editor

The Budget that never was

The Irish Dail may have thrown out the proposed 1982 Budget and forced an election into the bargain, but it is difficult to see how the Irish electors are going to escape some nasty medicine whichever party returns on February 18.

The truth of the matter is that the Irish economy is in a terrible mess and, in the view of some observers, heading rapidly towards a major crisis.

In other words, if the new government does not do something to put the house in order, then it may not be all that long before the IMF has to be called in to do it for it.

Ireland, it is true, has not seen the recession in quite the same way as Britain. The growth rate has slowed appreciably from its average of almost 4 per cent through the 1970s but at least real GNP did expand last year, albeit by only 1 per cent. Possibly one might argue that but for this unemployment rate of over 13 per cent would have been higher still.

The point, however, is that these marginal advantages have been bought at enormous financial cost and the writing is on the wall. Inflation has been running at more than 20 per cent; the public sector borrowing requirement has been up to 17 per cent of GNP; and foreign exchange reserves are no more than the equivalent of two months' imports.

In that context, the proposals of the defeated budget to bring the PSBR down to about 14-15 per cent of GNP, were hardly outrageous. Unless a new government sticks to that kind of aim, step number one may well be a devaluation within the EMS. But it is the medium term consequences of not getting on top of the situation that should perhaps be worrying Ireland most.

After all Ireland remains a country keen to sell itself to foreign industrialists and attract overseas capital.

The price is considerably higher than historic levels (British prices vary from 7p per therm for southern gas to nearer 20p for Frigg gas). But it is less than what BP, for example, has said is necessary for future supplies in the North Sea — around 30p per therm landed — and very considerably less than the oil-parity of 33p per therm which the Algerians and, at times, the Norwegians have been urging as a well-head price.

The implications could be extremely important, not least for Britain and the debate over Nigel Lawson's gas legislation. In the first place, it must affect Norway's strength as a seller of gas into North-West Europe.

If the Continental buyers can afford to be choosier than they have in the past, then Norway may look again at the United Kingdom as a market for its exports. In the second place, the Russian gas deal could also undermine the oil industry's hopes of gaining oil price parity for North Sea gas.

The Russian deal raises the base price considerably from current supplies but tends to restrict the scope of price rises for future supplies. For the larger fields, this may not matter so much. But for the smaller fields, already deprived in many cases of easy transportation because of the collapse of plans for a central gas gathering pipeline system in the North Sea, it could prove the difference between producing gas or leaving it in the ground.

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Gilts Bank says 3%

The Bank of England's decision not to supply applications for the new indexed-linked gilt at a price below 90 — where the yield is about 3 per cent — looks eminently sensible. In case of a collapse of the central gas gathering pipeline system in the North Sea, it could prove the difference between producing gas or leaving it in the ground.

Apart from not wanting to concede a real return grossly over the odds per cent, the Bank did of course also need to keep the return to a level that would not undermine the present yields on conventional stocks too. Hence the bounce in the market yesterday afternoon.

Mortgages

Index problem

An index-linked home loan scheme has, on the face of it, some considerable appeal for the investor than the borrower. But the Building Trust, a new unauthorized unit trust, claims £60 million worth of applicants for its new index-linked home loan scheme.

from the Building Trust pay interest building society rate, and they would currently borrow at 10 per cent. But 50 per cent of the loan is linked to movements in the house price index, which means that homebuyers are potentially giving away some 50 per cent of any capital gain realized on their home.

Robin Ellison, managing director of the Building Trust, considers that there will be no shortage of applicants. But there are potential pitfalls — particularly for the first-time buyer who requires a high percentage loan. House prices vary widely from region to region. Over the past year some areas have seen actual decreases of anything up to 10 per cent in house prices. The average for the country as a whole has been an increase of around 5 per cent.

Some borrowers could quite easily see the value of their particular property falling, at the same time as their loan was actually increasing. Caveat emptor.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (%)	Yld %	Actual	P/E Ratio	Turnover
122	100	98	ABN Hldgs 10% CULS	122	—	10.0	8.2	—	—	—
75	62	60	Airsprung Group	69	—	4.7	6.8	11.0	15.2	—
51	33	32	Armstrong & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5	—
285	187	180	Bardon Hill	205	—	9.7	7.7	10.0	12.1	—
104	82	80	Deborah Services	82	—	6.0	7.3	4.1	7.7	—
130	97	95	Frank Horell	130	—	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1	—
78	39	38	Frederick Parker	78	—	1.7	2.2	33.9	—	—
76	46	45	George Blair	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	92	IPC	94	—	7.3	7.8	6.8	10.2	—
105	100	98	Isis Conv Pref	105	—	15.7	15.0	—	—	—
113	95	94	Jackson Group	95	—	7.0	7.4	3.0	6.7	—
130	108	106	James Burrough	113	—	8.7	7.7	8.2	10.0	—
334	250	240	Robert Jenkins	254	—	31.3	12.3	3.5	9.4	—
59	51	50	Scotsons "A"	56	—	5.3	9.5	8.6	8.0	—
222	167	165	Torday & Carlisle	167	—	10.7	6.4	5.4	9.3	—
15	10	9	Twinkled Ore	13%	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	65	Twinkled 15% UL5	75	—	15.0	20.0	—	—	—
44	27	26	Winkled Holdings	27	—	3.0	11.1	4.8	8.2	—
103	75	74	Walter Alexander	75	—	6.4	8.5	4.9	8.7	—
263	212	210	W. S. Year	218	—	13.1	6.0	4.1	8.4	—

\* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 or more 250,000 12% 250,000 and over

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 25. Dealings End Feb 12. \$ Contango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22.  
 \$ Payment becomes are permitted on two previous days

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]









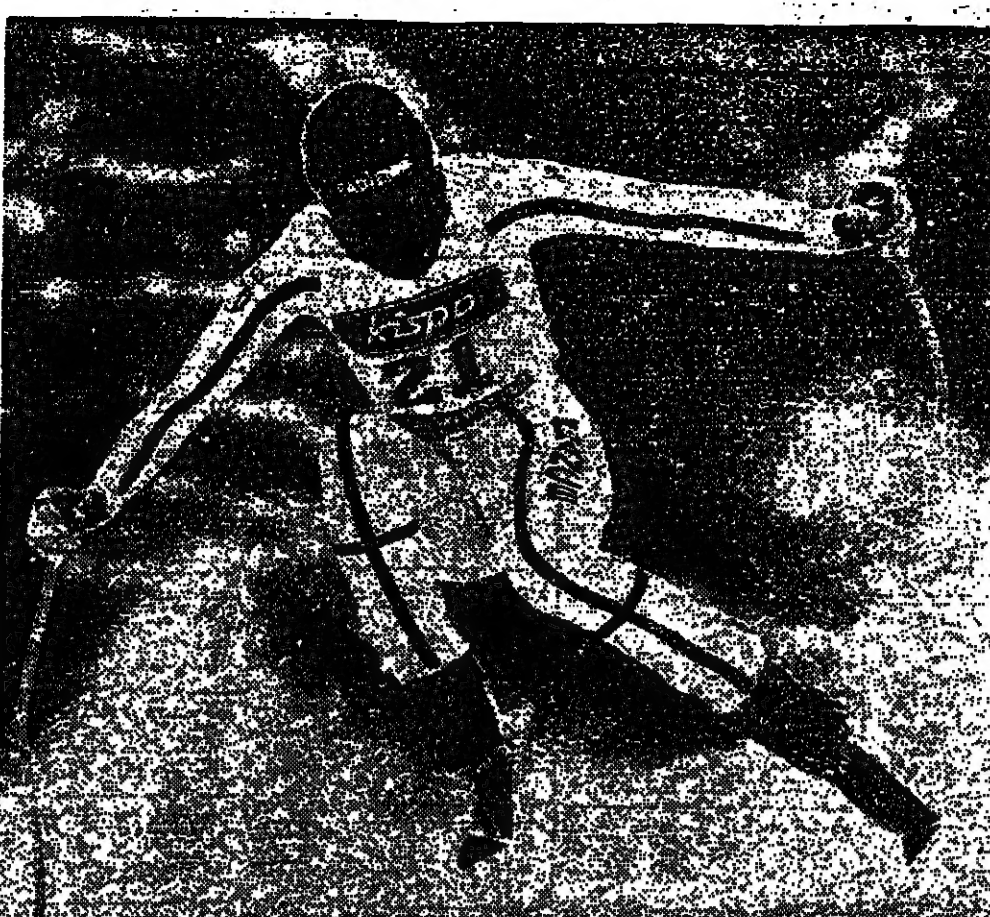


## Skiing Everything is rosy down on the farm

From Dudley Doust  
Schladming, Jan 28  
Erika Hess, a rosy Swiss farm girl, came twelfth in the opening race of the Alpine world ski championships today but from all the jangling of cowbells you would have thought she won. She was well. The race was the downhill half of the women's combined event and Miss Hess, a splendid slalom skier, is now well placed to step to the top of the field after the slalom half takes place on Monday.

Over time, 1 min. 40.2sec through a soft dust of snow, was the equivalent of about 25 metres behind the winner, Maria Walliser-Sörensen, the Swiss. The next veteran, Norwegian, Doris Hagen, was another Swiss, came second and the durable American, Cindy Nelson, third. The other finishers were: Patricia Serrat, the French girl, another slalom specialist, now in fourth, to challenge Miss Hess for the title. Britain's two entries made a hard run of it. Moira Langmuir, from Edinburgh, crashed in an explosion of snow some 600 metres from the finish and broke her right knee, as had done two days earlier in practice. Clair Booth, another Scot, stayed on her side and came thirty-fourth of the field.

Miss Hess has run only four downhill races this season. She has the slalom in her blood, having learned the discipline from her aunt, Annamaria Waser, who won the world slalom title at Garmisch in 1938. This was her first downhill race of the season. The deciding slalom race on Monday should be a close run. The final irony of the day came



Ski dance: Fabienne Serrat, of France, in the downhill.

only minutes after the women's race had finished when the Canadian Gerry Soranen, who only the day before withdrew from the combination event, ran the course faster than any of the competitors. She was training for a Saturday event, the women's downhill.

The downhillers continue to be the centre of interest partly because such elite slalom specialists as Sweden's Ingemar Stenmark are practising elsewhere in the Alps, but mainly because the downhill event is fast and exciting. The British have entered three racers, Nick Wilson; Frederick

Burton and, the best hope of all, Konrad Bartelds.

Three skiers from Eastern Europe were disqualified today for displaying illegal advertising. The race office said that the advertising was on the gloves of Martina Jurekova, of the Soviet Union, Eva Grabowicz, of Poland and Alexandra Masarova, of Czechoslovakia.

Provisional results: 1. M. Walliser-Sörensen (SWE), 2. D. Hagen (NOR), 3. C. Nelson (USA), 4. P. Serrat (FRA), 5. M. Langmuir (GBR), 6. C. Booth (GBR), 7. M. Jurekova (URS), 8. E. Grabowicz (POL), 9. A. Masarova (CZE), 10. G. Soranen (CAN), 11. E. Hess (SWE), 12. F. Serrat (FRA), 13. M. Langmuir (GBR), 14. C. Booth (GBR), 15. G. Soranen (CAN), 16. F. Serrat (FRA), 17. M. Langmuir (GBR), 18. C. Booth (GBR), 19. G. Soranen (CAN), 20. F. Serrat (FRA), 21. M. Langmuir (GBR), 22. C. Booth (GBR), 23. G. Soranen (CAN), 24. F. Serrat (FRA), 25. M. Langmuir (GBR), 26. C. Booth (GBR), 27. G. Soranen (CAN), 28. F. Serrat (FRA), 29. M. Langmuir (GBR), 30. C. Booth (GBR), 31. G. Soranen (CAN), 32. F. Serrat (FRA), 33. M. Langmuir (GBR), 34. C. Booth (GBR), 35. G. Soranen (CAN), 36. F. Serrat (FRA), 37. M. Langmuir (GBR), 38. C. Booth (GBR), 39. G. Soranen (CAN), 40. F. Serrat (FRA), 41. M. Langmuir (GBR), 42. C. Booth (GBR), 43. G. Soranen (CAN), 44. F. Serrat (FRA), 45. M. Langmuir (GBR), 46. C. 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